

2013 SOUTHERN NEVADA

Homeless Census & Survey

Comprehensive Report



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HelpHopeHome
Helping The Homeless in Southern Nevada

Generated by



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND: STATE OF HOMELESSNESS IN AMERICA

Homelessness was once a silent and underrepresented problem in the United States. With each passing year, however, research provides policymakers and communities with increasing amounts of information, allowing America to gain ground in the fight against homelessness.

The majority of the American homeless population becomes homeless due to a widening gap between income and cost of housing. And with limited amounts of housing assistance, homelessness becomes a reality for many individuals and families. Mental illness, chronic health conditions, substance abuse, the debilitating effects of trauma, and the effects of the economy are just some of the causes of homelessness.

Efforts are underway, however, to increase the amount and efficacy of relief extended to the homeless population, and to those who are at risk of becoming homeless. Among these efforts is the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, which is an enumeration of both sheltered and unsheltered populations. The PIT is conducted over the course of one night in the last week of January, and is required of all Continuums of Care, per The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The PIT creates a snapshot of the state of homelessness on a local and national level. These counts are conducted by Continuums of Care (CoC) nationwide – with shelter data being collected on even-numbered years, and both sheltered homeless data and unsheltered homeless data being collected every odd-numbered year. The data collected from the PIT count is then combined with information from the Housing Inventory Count (HIC), as well as longitudinal data from each homeless management information system (HMIS).

In addition, a comprehensive survey is conducted every two years (odd-numbered years). This survey is also conducted by CoCs nationwide, and provides a comprehensive scope of the characteristics of homelessness on a county, state, and national level.

Together, the PIT count, HIC data, HMIS data, and the homeless survey measure not only the scope of homelessness, but also provide invaluable information regarding service utilization and efficacy. Such services include emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing.

Every year, data from the sources mentioned above are channeled into the creation of the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. The contents of the AHAR are then used to determine funding, and lend to knowledge-based creation of Federal, State, and local policies. Through these actions, comprehensive data collection, analysis, and research is possible, thus equipping U.S. policy makers with the information they need to combat homelessness on a large scale. The Homelessness Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act has instituted an incentive to those communities making significant progress toward the goal of ending homelessness by

the creation of a ‘high performing community’ designation, allowing for greater flexibility in the use of CoC funds.¹

The substantial contribution of the application of data to the fight against homelessness is beginning to be reflected in the current state of homelessness in America. Nationally, homelessness, only increased by 1 percent between 2009 and 2011 despite the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Experts attribute this fairly stable level of homelessness to the significant investment of federal resources in the form of the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, both of which can be linked to the generation of quality data from the CoCs nationwide²

In January 2011 (the date of the last HUD mandated PIT), 636,017 persons nationwide were experiencing homelessness on a single night.³ While the number of homeless remained relatively unchanged in 2012 at 633,782 this number actually represented a 5.7 percent downward trend in the number of homeless per capita in light of overall national population growth trends since 2007. Examining subpopulation data shows a 6.8 percent decline in homelessness among individuals (households without children) during this same time frame. The five-year trend for families shows a decrease of 3.7 percent. However, there is a 1.4 percent increase between 2011 and 2012 for this group, making it an area of concern and further investment.⁴

On a local level, the Southern Nevada 2013 PIT Count outlined in this report indicates that homelessness in this region has decreased by 22.0 percent compared to 2011, when the total amount of homeless persons was 9,432.³ Likewise, as stated in this report, homelessness in Southern Nevada has decreased by 44.9 percent compared to 2009. While Southern Nevada seems to be gaining ground, significant effort and resources are still required to address homelessness.

1.2 HOMELESSNESS THROUGHOUT HISTORY

As homelessness swelled in the 1980s, growing concern stimulated interest in the nature and scope of the problem. When the Community for Creative Nonviolence (CCNV) ascertained that the homeless population nationwide amounted to 2-3 million homeless persons,⁵ government concern grew. The first national PIT Count was conducted in 1983,⁶ marking the beginning of government efforts to gather data on homelessness in the U.S.

Although this first PIT Count was limited to an enumeration of sheltered and unsheltered homeless in only 60 areas, this study was paramount as it instigated further studies. As the characteristics of homelessness were increasingly scrutinized, a national picture of homelessness began to form.

1.2.1 The McKinney–Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987

The first several PIT Counts were hindered by lack of funding; they were being organized, funded, and administered by only state and local jurisdictions. During its infancy, the Reagan Administration noted that homelessness was being addressed at only the grass-roots level, and they created the first task force to approach the problem. In 1987, President Ronald Reagan signed the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act into law.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act originally consisted of 15 programs, including crucial services such as CoC programs, the Supportive Housing Program, and the Emergency Food and Shelter Program.⁷

Since its inception, the government has amended the McKinney-Vento Act several times, with the latest amendment being the HEARTH Act of 2009, which President Barack Obama signed into law. Research from PIT Counts and other studies pointed to lack of affordable housing and limited housing assistance as the primary causes of homelessness in the U.S. Thus, the \$2.2 billion HEARTH Act was designed to:⁸

1. Streamline application requirements for competitive grants
2. Codify the CoC planning process
3. Set a federal goal to reinstate permanent housing within 30 days to any individual or family who becomes homeless

1.2.2 The Development of National Reporting

In 1999, the government commissioned HUD to create tools and incentives to propel communities to collect accurate data on the homeless populations in their jurisdictions. HUD's first mode of action was to implement the Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS), which collect longitudinal data on a wide range of variables. Shortly following this was the implementation of the AHAR.

The AHAR

As mentioned earlier, HUD presents this comprehensive report to Congress to convey information regarding the extent and nature of homelessness in America. It provides a full continuum of information regarding homeless assistance programs and services. The AHAR is essentially a research summary created using information collected from the following data collection systems:

- PIT Counts conducted nationwide to enumerate homeless populations and capture information about homeless populations in each state
- Housing Inventory Count (HIC) to determine the number of homeless assistance programs and beds
- Data from the HMIS
- Quarterly and Annual Performance Reports from HPRP grantees describing the status of their first year

PIT Count

As mentioned above, a PIT Count is required of all communities. Jurisdictions across the country receive the majority of their federal funding for the implementation and maintenance of homeless services through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant, which is dependent upon information reported in the AHAR. HUD thus requires each jurisdiction to conduct a survey and biennial PIT Count of the sheltered and unsheltered homeless adults, families, and unaccompanied children/youth in their jurisdictions.

The information obtained from the PIT Count and the homeless survey is crucial to identifying what resources are needed, and where these resources need to be allocated. It also governs whether jurisdictions receive the correct amount of funding to bring relief to their homeless population.⁹

1.3 THE 2013 SOUTHERN NEVADA CENSUS & SURVEY REPORT

The 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey project was composed of two parts: A PIT Count and a subsequent comprehensive 37-question survey. The survey, which was administered during the weeks immediately following the PIT Count, was conducted to obtain in-depth information regarding the characteristics of sheltered and unsheltered homeless adults, families, and unaccompanied children/youth in Southern Nevada.

The HUD definition for homelessness is as follows:

An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; as well an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.⁴

The PIT Count was a community-wide effort to enumerate the homeless population in Southern Nevada. According to the guidelines set forth by HUD, the PIT Count included a comprehensive enumeration of sheltered homeless persons, and a 94% stratified sampling of unsheltered homeless persons on the nights designated for the count.

The sheltered count was conducted on January 23, 2013 while the unsheltered count was conducted on January 23 and 24, 2013. Although the policy put forth by HUD states that the PIT Count for unsheltered individuals must be conducted on a single night, the Southern Nevada unsheltered count was conducted on two nights due to the significant size of the county.¹⁰ Applied Survey Research (ASR) developed this particular methodology for homeless enumeration. HUD not only approved this method, but also highlighted it in their *2008 Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*.¹¹ Thus, it is considered a reliable methodology.

According to paragraph 1.i of the *Homeless Definition Rule*, as outlined in the *Federal Register*, Vol. 76, No. 233,¹² the 2013 definition of unsheltered homeless is as follows:

...Individuals and families “with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.”

According to paragraph 1.ii of the *Homeless Definition Rule*, as outlined in the *Federal Register*, Vol. 76, No. 233,¹² the 2013 definition of sheltered homeless is as follows:

...Individuals and families “living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals...this includes individuals residing in Safe Haven provider programs.”

As mentioned above, the unsheltered street enumeration portion of the PIT Count was conducted over a two-night span, with each night counting specified geographic areas of Southern Nevada. HUD defines ‘night’ as the time between sunset and sunrise.¹⁰ The first count was conducted in the early morning of January 23, 2013, and focused primarily on the urban core or the Las Vegas Valley area. The

second count, which was conducted on the night of January 24, 2013, focused on the rural areas of Southern Nevada.

1.4 PROJECT PURPOSE & GOALS

1.4.1 Purpose

In order to ensure that Southern Nevada continues to receive the federal funding necessary to serve its homeless population, SNRPC-CoH's Regional Initiatives Office collaborated with Bitfocus Inc. to conduct the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey for homeless adults, families, and unaccompanied children and youth. Bitfocus Inc. is an international system integration and development company specializing in the development of application infrastructure software to simplify and accelerate the development, deployment, integration, and management of software applications.

Southern Nevada and its municipal governments carried out this census and survey in order to obtain the data necessary to evaluate the nature and scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada. The data collected in this study will be analyzed and presented in a formal report to HUD to be implemented into the annual AHAR. The results of this research will assist service providers, policy makers, funders, as well as local, state, and national government entities to fund and create effective and efficient services and programs for those who are homeless in Southern Nevada.

1.4.2 Goals

The primary goals of the 2013 Southern Nevada Census and Survey Project are as follows:

- Evaluate the effectiveness of current programs on a local level to provide the information necessary to improve programs that serve the Southern Nevada homeless population.
- Preserve current federal funding.
- Compare the 2013 data to previous years, identify any trends, and track progress of the state of homelessness in Southern Nevada.^{13,14, 15}
- Raise public awareness of the scope and nature of homelessness in Southern Nevada in order to generate community support.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In collaboration with Bitfocus Inc., The Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC) – Committee on Homelessness (CoH) conducted the 2013 Southern Nevada Point-in-Time Homeless Census and Survey. All components of the project were conducted according to the requirements and standards of practice outlined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).¹⁰

This project included a comprehensive enumeration, or Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, of the homeless population of Clark County, Nevada (hereafter referred to as Southern Nevada). Using a stratified sampling technique, this enumeration was conducted on the nights of January 23 and 24, 2013. It should be noted that the enumeration teams achieved 94% coverage of existing census tracts, making this enumeration closely comparable to a comprehensive enumeration with full canvassing. HUD approved the stratified sampling with extrapolation of like census track data, HUD considers the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census to hold the same validity and reliability as a full canvassing. Therefore, any comparisons made between the data collected in 2007, 2009, 2011, and now 2013 can be viewed as valid and reliable.

A universal and inherent shortcoming of any PIT count is its inability to capture an accurate number of homeless persons in a particular region for the given year. In many areas, levels of homelessness are in constant flux, characterized by seasonal changes as well as changes caused by unpredictable economic factors. In addition, many homeless persons experience short episodes of homelessness throughout the year, at times other than the PIT count.

Thus, the annual estimate presented at the end of this section was calculated to provide the approximate amount of homeless persons in Southern Nevada over the course of the year. This estimate compensates for these biases, and reduces the degree of underrepresentation of the true number of homeless persons at any given point in time during the year.

In the weeks immediately following the PIT Count, 860 surveys were administered to homeless persons throughout Southern Nevada. A detailed account of the methodology for the 2013 PIT Count and the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey can be found in *Appendix VI*, the Street Census Instrument in *Appendix I*, and the Survey Instrument in *Appendix II*.

Both the PIT Count and the Southern Nevada Homeless Survey were designed to obtain comprehensive and targeted data, highlighting the prevalence and characteristics of the general homeless population, and specific subpopulations within the general homeless population. The survey was designed to unveil additional details in regards to the scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada.

The 2013 Southern Nevada PIT Count indicates that between 2011 and 2013, the total amount of homeless persons decreased from 9,432 to 7,355, respectively. The amount of unsheltered homeless

persons (including the hidden homeless population) decreased from 5,670 to 4,435 during this time period.

2.1 2013 HOMELESS CENSUS & SURVEY SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- The 2013 PIT Count and Southern Nevada Homeless Survey indicate a 22.0% decrease in the number of homeless persons enumerated as compared to 2011.
- 7,355 homeless persons were enumerated during the 2013 PIT Count.
- It is estimated that 33,882 members of the Southern Nevada population experience homelessness annually.
- The annual estimate of homelessness in Southern Nevada represents approximately 1.7% of the total population of Southern Nevada.

Figure 1: Point-in-Time Homeless Census & Annual Estimate of Homelessness Data

Census Components	2007	2009	2011	2013	2011-2013 Net Change	2011-2013 Percent Change
Unsheltered - Street	3,747	3,027	4,241	3,034	-1,207	-28.5%
Unsheltered - Hidden	3,826	3,307	1,429	1,401	-28	-2.0%
Sheltered	3,844	7,004	3,762	2,920	-842	-22.4%
Total Point-in-Time Count	11,417	13,338	9,432	7,355	-2,077	-22.0%
Annual Estimate	50,656	52,458	43,294	33,882	-9,412	-21.7

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Census
Bitfocus, Inc., 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census

2.1.1 Demographics

The majority of homeless individuals in Southern Nevada identified as White/Caucasian, were of male gender, and were between the ages of 51 and 60.

- 73.8% of homeless survey respondents were male, and 25.8% were female.
- 43.3% of survey respondents were White/Caucasian, 36.1% were Black/African American, 11.4% were Hispanic/Latino, and 3.4% identified themselves as Asian/Pacific Islander.
- The majority (33.0%) of homeless survey respondents were between the ages of 51 and 60.
- The majority (73.0%) of homeless survey respondents were residing in Southern Nevada when they most recently became homeless.
- 827 (11.2%) of the homeless persons counted were under the age of 18. 1,477 (20.1%) of the homeless persons counted were between 18 and 24 years of age. 5,052 (68.7%) of the homeless persons counted were 25 years of age or older.

2.1.2 Conditions: Sheltered/Unsheltered

60.3% of homeless persons in Southern Nevada were unsheltered.

- 60.3% of the persons enumerated in the PIT Count were unsheltered. 31.6% of these unsheltered persons were considered “hidden” homeless, and the remaining 68.4% were classified as street homeless.
- 39.7% of the persons enumerated in the PIT Count were in sheltered facilities. In Southern Nevada, on the night of January, 23, 2013, 20 persons were in safe havens, 853 persons were in transitional housing, and 2,047 persons were in emergency shelters (including the FAS beds from Southern Nevada)

2.1.3 HUD-Defined Homeless Subpopulations

Chronically Homeless Individuals

Definition: An unaccompanied homeless adult individual (persons 18 years or older) with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four separate occasions of homelessness in the past three years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time.¹⁰

- On any given night in 2013, it is estimated that approximately 695 chronically homeless individuals are present in Southern Nevada. This represents a 56.0% decrease from 2011, when there were approximately 1,579 chronically homeless individuals in Southern Nevada.
- In 2011, 16.8% of all homeless individuals nationwide were considered chronically homeless. The estimated number of chronically homeless individuals in Southern Nevada in 2013 represents 9.4% of the total 2013 point-in-time homeless population.³

HUD-Defined Households*

- In 2013, there were 222 households with at least one adult and one child, 6,211 households without children, and 436 households with only children.
- **Households With At Least One Adult & One Child:** In 2013, 63.6% of the homeless population living in households with at least one adult and one child were under the age of 18, 8.0% were between the ages of 18-24, and 28.4% were over the age of 24.
- **Households Without Children:** In 2013, there were 1,428 persons ages 18-24 and 4,879 persons over the age of 24 residing in households without children.
- **Households With Only Children:** In 2013, there were 433 one-child households and 3 multi-child households. There were 6 children in multi-child households.

Veterans

Definition: This subpopulation category includes persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.¹⁰

In 2011, HUD and the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) began to use the PIT Count as the definitive federal estimate of Veteran homelessness. In 2013, HUD extended the definition of homeless Veterans to specify between male and female veterans.

As of 2011, Veteran homelessness nationwide had decreased by almost 11 percent since 2009. And in 2011, 67,495 Veterans were homeless, making this population stand for 14 percent of all homeless adults.³

** For the purposes of this report, persons in a household without children will be referred to as **Individuals**; persons in households with at least one adult and one child (under 18) will be referred to as a **Family**; and persons in households composed of only children will be referred to as **Only Children**.¹⁰*

- In 2013, it is estimated that, on any given night, the Veteran homeless population of Southern Nevada amounts to approximately 866 male and female Veterans. It is estimated that 5.7% (49 estimated persons) of the estimated Veteran homeless population were female.
- The total estimated amount of male and female Veterans represents 11.8% of the total amount of homeless individuals enumerated in the 2013 PIT Count, and a 35.6% decrease from the 1,350 homeless Veterans enumerated in 2011.

Severely Mentally Ill

Definition: This subpopulation category includes persons with mental health problems that are expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.¹⁰

- Overall, 37.7% of survey respondents reported experiencing mental illness, depression, or PTSD, or any possible variation thereof.

Chronic Substance Abuse

Definition: This category includes persons with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both) that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.¹⁰

- On any given night in 2013, it is estimated that approximately 669 homeless persons suffering from chronic substance abuse are present in Southern Nevada. This represents a 64.5% decrease from 2011, when there were approximately 1,882 homeless persons suffering from chronic substance abuse present in Southern Nevada.

Co-Occurring Disorders

Definition: Although this category is not considered a HUD-defined homeless subpopulation, it is still of great concern and interest to the community and policy-makers. This category includes persons who experience substance abuse paired with mental illness, depression, PTSD, or any combination thereof, that keeps them from obtaining work or housing.

- 1.74% of survey respondents reported co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse that prevented them from obtaining work or housing. 3.02% of survey respondents reported co-occurring depression and substance abuse prevented that prevented them from obtaining work or housing. 1.16% of survey respondents reported co-occurring PTSD and substance abuse that prevented them from obtaining work or housing.

Persons With HIV/AIDS

Definition: This subpopulation category includes persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.¹⁰

- On any given night in 2013, it is estimated that approximately 71 homeless persons suffering with medical conditions associated with HIV/AIDS are present in Southern Nevada. This represents a 61.4% increase from 2011, when there were approximately 44 of these homeless individuals present in Southern Nevada.

Victims of Domestic Violence

Definition: This subpopulation category includes persons who have been victims of domestic violence at any point in the past.¹⁰

- On any given night in 2013, it is estimated that approximately 777 of homeless persons who are considered victims of domestic violence are present in Southern Nevada. This represents a 17.0% increase from 2011, when approximately 664 homeless persons considered to be victims of domestic violence were present in Southern Nevada.

2.1.4 2013 Profile Of Homelessness

- 53.3% of homeless respondents cited job loss as the reason for their current episode of homelessness.
- 49.4% reported that this is their first time experiencing homelessness.
- 58.8% of the survey respondents stated they had been homeless for less than a year, and 51.9% of the respondents indicated that they had been homeless only one time in the past three years.

2.1.5 Medical

In 2013, 30.0% of homeless respondents indicated that since they most recently became homeless, they had needed medical care but had been unable to receive it.

- The amount of homeless respondents unable to receive medical is 30%; this is consistent with 2011.
- From 2011 to 2013, the amount of homeless individuals reporting chronic health conditions increased from approximately 24% to 28.2%, representing a 4.2% increase.

According to the federal government, multiple physical and mental conditions are considered disabling to homeless individuals, preventing them from obtaining work or housing. These conditions include:

- Physical disabilities
 - Mental illness
 - Severe depression
 - Alcohol or drug abuse
 - Chronic health problems
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Tuberculosis
 - Hepatitis C
 - Trauma
 - Developmental disabilities.
-
- 33.8% of homeless survey respondents reported they had at least one disabling condition.
 - 34.9% of the population surveyed had a physical disability.

2.1.6 Access To Government Assistance & Programs

- Of the respondents receiving government assistance, 71.9% were receiving food stamps, 7.1% were receiving SSI/SSDI assistance, and 3.7% were receiving social security.
- In regards to monetary government benefits, 56.5% of survey respondents reported they were receiving money from government benefits.
- 93.7% of survey respondents received \$500 or less from private, non-government benefits.

2.1.7 Incarceration

- 5.1% of survey respondents indicated that they were incarcerated immediately before becoming homeless this time.

2.2 CONCLUSION

The 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless PIT Count identified 7,355 homeless persons in Southern Nevada. Of these persons, 39.7% (2,920 persons) were sheltered, and 60.3% (4,435 persons) were unsheltered. Of the unsheltered homeless population, 31.6% were classified as “hidden” homeless, and 68.4% were classified as “street” homeless.

Inherent difficulties are associated with any methodology that is applied to enumerating homeless persons, and these difficulties warrant careful consideration when evaluating totals such as those presented in this report. For example, many homeless persons (especially women and children) are eliminated from the total count as they typically do not want to be located, often for safety reasons. Thus, many reside in locations that make them undetectable to enumeration teams. Even the most systematic and comprehensive methodologies fall short of gathering entirely representative numbers that reflect the true homeless population.

The same careful consideration should be applied to the analysis of the Homeless Survey data. While the extrapolation method has proven to be reliable, and is considered the standard method of estimating the subpopulation totals, it must be emphasized that this method produces estimates that vary in their representativeness of the actual sample population.

However, despite these challenges, the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey provides both valid and useful data, creating a more comprehensive view of the nature and scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada in 2013. The fact that the same methodology (characterized by the same difficulties and adjustments) has been used since 2007 enables Southern Nevada to continue tracking key patterns and trends amongst their homeless population. This consistent approach continues to highlight the changing conditions of homelessness in this region, so that necessary action can be taken to improve the livelihood of these homeless persons. Through its impact on the policy-makers in Southern Nevada, this report will allow for more constructive and innovative solutions to be applied to the problem of homelessness.

Homelessness is an interpersonal issue, with varied catalysts. Likewise, the contributing factors that reduce and successfully address the issue is multi-faceted with many variables such as; employment rates, access to physical and mental health care, housing assistance programs and community planning/growth. The full list of contributing factors is explored in the Help Hope Home Plan to End Homelessness Implementation Plan, 2013 five (5) year update.

3. HOMELESS CENSUS FINDINGS

The following data presents the results of the homeless census component of this report. All Continuum of Cares (CoCs) are required to conduct a Point-in-Time (PIT) Count during the last 10 days in January of each year in order to enumerate the amount of homeless persons in their communities. HUD requires sheltered homeless persons to be enumerated annually and unsheltered homeless persons to be enumerated every two years (odd-numbered years).

The PIT Count is a core data set used by HUD to address homelessness on both a national and local level. PIT Count estimates provide snapshots of homelessness from 3 different angles:⁴

1. Sheltered Homeless Persons & Unsheltered Homeless Persons
2. HUD-Defined Homeless Households
3. Counts of beds in Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing Programs, Safe Havens, and Permanent Supportive Housing Programs

Southern Nevada integrates the data that is collected from these census findings into their CoC applications for Homeless Assistance Grants. It provides elected officials for each of the jurisdictions in Southern Nevada a clear view of the homeless population, and guides policy makers in their allocation of funds for homeless services and programs.

3.1 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

This PIT Count is an enumeration of the sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons in Southern Nevada. The 2013 PIT Count was carried out in accordance with the most recent guidelines set forth by HUD.⁸

3.1.1 Point-In-Time Count Procedure:

The 2013 Southern Nevada PIT Count targeted three main elements of homelessness. All homeless persons were categorized as sheltered, unsheltered - “hidden” homeless, and unsheltered – “street” homeless. They were then categorized according to type of household, as defined by HUD.

As prescribed by HUD regulations, this year (i.e. an odd-numbered year) the PIT Count included an enumeration of unsheltered homeless persons in addition to sheltered homeless persons. Therefore, it is important to first delineate the differences between a *sheltered homeless person* and an *unsheltered homeless person*.

- A **sheltered homeless person** is a homeless person who is in an emergency shelter, safe haven, or transitional housing program for homeless persons.¹¹
- An **unsheltered homeless person** is a homeless person who is living in a place not meant for human habitation, such as the streets, abandoned buildings, vehicles, parks, and train stations.¹¹

It is also important to define *household*, *individual*, *family*, and a *household with only children*, as used for the purposes of this report. According to HUD, a *household* is defined as follows:¹⁶

“...occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.”

Therefore, for the purposes of this report, persons in a household without children will be referred to as **Individuals**; persons in households with at least one adult and one child (under 18) will be referred to as a **Family**; and persons in households composed of only children will be referred to as **Only Children**.¹⁰

The 2013 Southern Nevada PIT Count of unsheltered homeless persons was conducted during the early morning hours of January 23 and January 24, of 2013. Census enumerators canvassed 94% of the U.S. Census tracts in Southern Nevada with similar census tract extrapolations for those census tracts not enumerated. This method is in accordance with permission from HUD Headquarters as a statistically sound method of enumeration.

As for the sheltered enumeration, the staff at every emergency shelter, transitional housing facility, domestic violence shelter, and safe haven enumerated all homeless persons present in their facility on the night of January 23, 2013.

The number of “hidden” homeless, or those residing in unsheltered locations on private property (i.e. vehicles, unconverted garages, etc.) was obtained using a random telephone survey. 1,002 households were surveyed, and the results were projected against the estimated 702,000 general population households in Southern Nevada (this number was collected from the 2009-2011 U.S. Census, American Community Survey County Population Estimate).¹⁷ More information regarding the methodology applied to the general population telephone survey, conducted by Applied Analysis, can be found in *Appendix VI*, and the survey instrument can be found in *Appendix IV* of this report.

The homeless persons of Southern Nevada were also categorized according to HUD-defined homeless households. These household types include: households with at least one adult and one child; households without children; households with only children. Age was documented amongst these three categories. It is worthy to note that, per guidance from HUD, Unaccompanied Children and Youth

were declassified as a subpopulation in 2013. They are now included in the documentation of HUD-defined households.¹⁰

3.2 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT: GENERAL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A total of 7,355 homeless persons in Southern Nevada were enumerated on January 23 and 24, 2013. This is a 22.0% decrease from the 2011 census.

3.2.1 Unsheltered Homeless

The amount of unsheltered homeless persons nationwide decreased from 2008 to 2009, and has remained stable, albeit increasing slightly between 2007 and 2012.² However, in 10 states nationwide, more than half of the homeless population was unsheltered at the time of the 2012 PIT Count.⁴

In 2013, the unsheltered homeless population in Southern Nevada decreased. More specifically, 60.3% (4,435) of homeless persons enumerated were unsheltered. This included homeless persons found: in parks or on the street; in cars, vans, RVs; in encampments; in abandoned buildings; homeless students who were identified by the Clark County School District and met HUD's definition of literal homelessness, and the "hidden" homeless estimate derived from the general population survey.

- The amount of unsheltered – "street" homeless persons decreased by 28.5% compared to that of 2011.
- "Hidden" homeless – This estimate was derived through the randomized telephone survey. The amount of "hidden" homeless persons (1,401) decreased by 2.0% compared to that of 2011.
- 414 (9.3%) of the unsheltered homeless persons counted were under the age of 18. This amount included 252 unaccompanied unsheltered youth enumerated by the Clark County School District.

It should be noted that special efforts to enumerate homeless persons residing in the tunnels of Southern Nevada were established in 2011. During preparation for the 2011 Southern Nevada PIT Count, additional specialized enumeration teams were strategically formed to target the tunnels in Southern Nevada. Similar teams were formed during preparation for the 2013 PIT Count; they consisted of formerly homeless individuals who once occupied the tunnels, and outreach workers who are familiar with the tunnels and their occupants.¹⁵ In 2011, 477 homeless persons were enumerated in the tunnels. In 2013 however, due to rain and risk of flooding, this enumeration was limited; only 53 homeless persons were added to the 2013 enumeration total. It is important to note that in an effort to reduce the number of deaths for those living in the tunnels due to flooding, Southern Nevada has

adopted protocols to send outreach teams into the tunnels to warn of potential flooding and encouraging persons living in tunnels to take advantage of housing services or move to higher, safer ground.

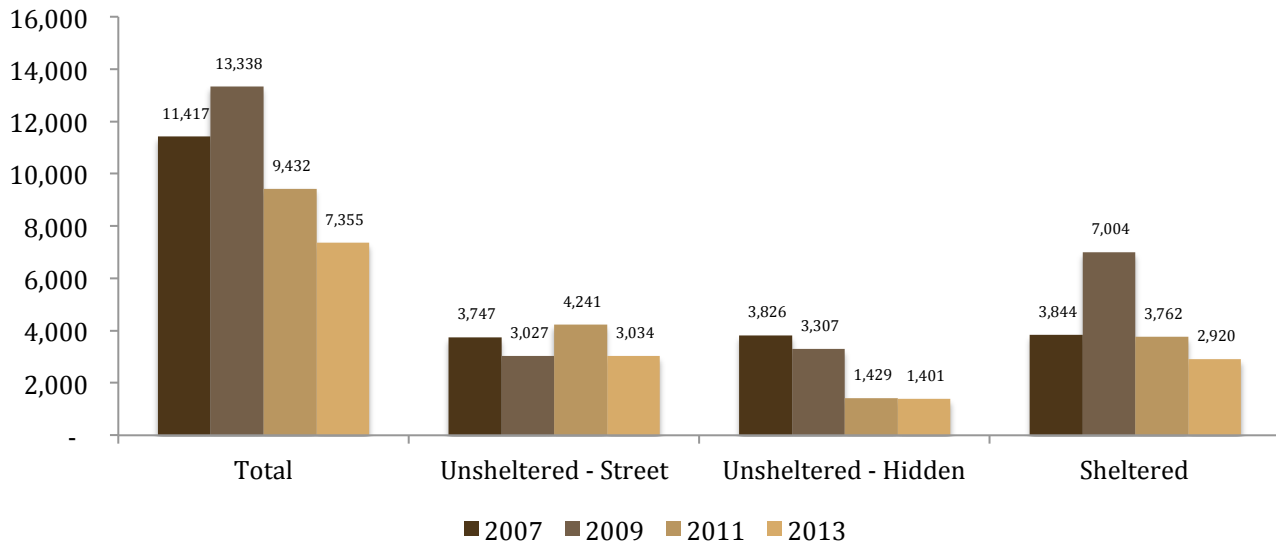
3.2.2 Sheltered Homeless

The amount of sheltered homeless persons nationwide increased between 2008 and 2009, but has remained stable, reducing only slightly.⁴

- In regards to Southern Nevada, of the total amount of homeless persons counted, 39.7% (2,920) were sheltered. To be considered sheltered, they had to be residing in an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or safe haven. Only homeless persons who entered the shelter on or before the date of the count, or those who exited after the date of the count, were included in the sheltered homeless count.
- The 2013 sheltered population represents a 22.4% decrease from the 2011 sheltered population.
- 610 homeless persons counted in the entire PIT Count were persons in families (i.e. households with at least one adult and one child). These 610 persons in families comprised 222 family households.
- 413 (14.1%) of the sheltered homeless persons counted were under the age of 18.
- NOTE: Persons NOT included in the PIT Count are as follows: those residing in permanent supportive housing programs; those residing in programs with beds/units not dedicated for persons who are homeless (i.e. detox centers); those temporarily staying with friends; those staying in their own unit with assistance from a Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Provider Program.

It should be noted that, due to funding cuts, Clark County Social Service revised their financial assistance program to provide short-term assistance, thus changing the classification of their project from Transitional Housing to Emergency Shelter. This agency accounts for a significant number of beds, thus this change should be taken into consideration when reviewing the data for Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing for 2011 and 2013.

Figure 2: Point-In-Time Count Homeless Census Population

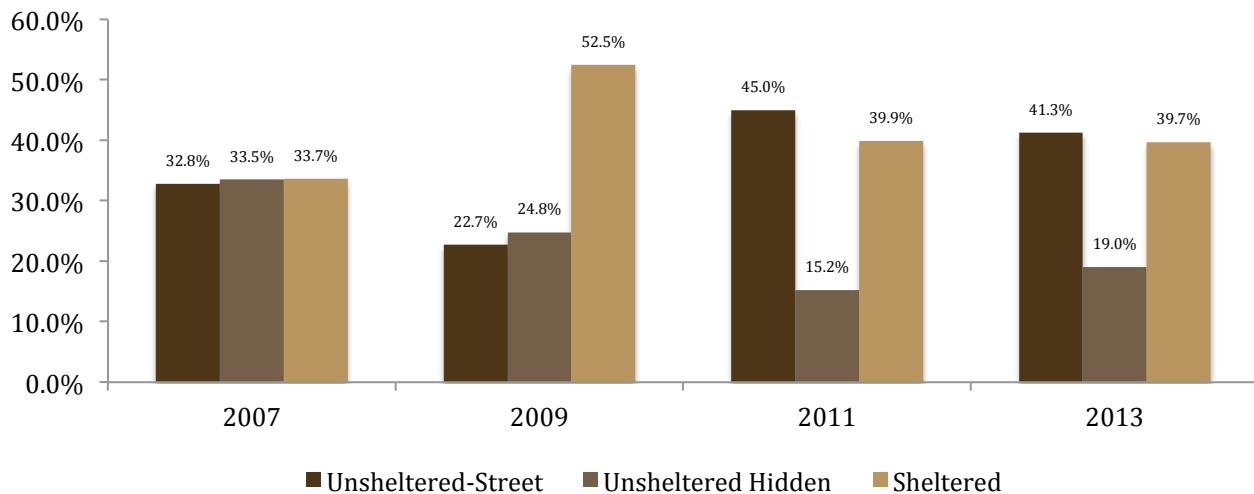


Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: In 2013, the number of "hidden" homeless persons living in unsheltered locations on private property, such as unconverted garages and vehicles, was based on a random telephone survey of 1,002 households and projected against the estimated 702,000 households in Southern Nevada.¹⁷ The same procedure was conducted in 2011.¹⁵

Figure 3: Percentage Distribution of Point-In-Time Homeless Census Population



N: 2007=11,417; 2009=13,388; 2011=9432; 2013=7355

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: In 2013, the number of "hidden" homeless persons living in unsheltered locations on private property, such as unconverted garages and vehicles, was based on a random telephone survey of 1,002 households and projected against the estimated 702,000 households in Southern Nevada.¹⁷ The same procedure was conducted in 2011.¹⁴

3.2.3 HUD-Defined Households

Figure 4: Households With At Least One Adult And One Child, 2013

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total Amount
	ES	TH	SH		
Total Number of Households	131	83	NA	8	222
Total Number of Persons	342	247	NA	21	610
Number of Persons (under age 18)	223	156	NA	9	388
Number of Persons (age 18-24)	17	27	NA	5	49
Number of Persons (over age 24)	102	64	NA	7	173

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: Safe Haven shelters are for individuals only, thus households with at least one adult and one child do not apply.

Figure 5: Households Without Children, 2013

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total Amount
	ES	TH	SH		
Total Number of Households	1,635	571	20	3,985	6,211
Total Number of Persons	1,689	588	20	4,010	6,307
Number of Persons (age 18-24)	98	87	0	1,243	1,428
Number of Persons (over age 24)	1,591	501	20	2,767	4,879

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Figure 6: Households With Only Children, 2013

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total Amount
	ES	TH	SH		
Total Number of Households	16	16	NA	404	436
Total Number of One-Child Households	16	14	NA	403	433
Total Number of Multi-Child Households	0	2	NA	1	3
Total Number of Persons (under Age 18)	16	18	NA	405	439
Number of Children in Multi-Child Households	0	4	NA	2	6

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: The above information replaces the amount of 'Unaccompanied Child' reported in previous PIT subpopulation accounts.⁸

Figure 7: Unsheltered Homeless: Persons In Vehicles, Vans/RVs, Abandoned Buildings, Encampments, & Parks

	2007	2009	2011	2013	2011-2013 Net Change	2011-2013 Percent Change
Persons In Cars	159	149	150	104	-46	-30.7%
Persons In Vans & RVs	325	256	229	199	-30	-13.1%
Persons In Abandoned Buildings	NA	158	264	163	-101	-38.3%
Persons In Encampments	762	715	617	676	59	9.6%
Persons In Parks	13	0	3	34	31	91.2%
Total	1259	1278	1263	1,176	-87	-6.9%

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA
Bitfocus Inc.. (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

- Note: The Clark County School District identified 17 unaccompanied youth and 63 youth in families living in cars, streets, parks, and RVs.

Figure 8: Unsheltered Homeless: Hidden Homeless

	2007	2009	2011	2013	2011-2013 Net Change	2011-2013 Percent Change
Single Adults 18+	1,913	3,307	1,429	1401	-28	-2.0%
Unaccompanied Children	0	0	0	0	0	-
Persons In Families	1913	0	0	0	0	-
Total	3,826	3,307	1,429	1,401	-28	-2.0%

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA
Bitfocus Inc.. (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas.

3.2.4 Countywide Annual Estimation

Many homeless persons experience short episodes of homelessness at times of the year other than that of the PIT Count. Thus, the PIT Count has an inherent bias and is not representative of the homeless population in its entirety; it is possible that it under represents the prevalence of homelessness during other months of the year. Because more people are homeless than can be counted at any point in time, it is necessary to calculate an annual estimate of the number of homeless persons in Southern Nevada over the course of a year. The following is a HUD-approved method for using the PIT Count to calculate an annual estimate of homeless persons.

Three factors are used to determine the annual estimate¹⁸

1. A = The point-in-time enumeration of currently homeless people (found in the unsheltered and sheltered count)
2. B = The number of currently homeless people who became homeless within the last 7 days
3. C = The proportion of currently homeless people who have experienced a previous homeless episode within the past 12 months

The equation for calculating the annual estimate is:

$$A + [(B \times 51) \times (1 - C)] = \text{Annual Estimate}$$

For Southern Nevada in 2013: $7,355 + [(720.79 \times 51) \times (1 - 0.280)] = 33,882.408 = 33,882$ persons
 For Southern Nevada in 2011: $9,432 + [(1,150.704 \times 51) \times (1 - 0.423)] = 43,293.767 \approx 43,294$ persons
 For Southern Nevada in 2009: $13,338 + [(1,080.378 \times 51) \times (1 - 0.290)] = 52,458.487 \approx 52,458$ persons
 For Southern Nevada in 2007: $11,417 + [(1,233.036 \times 51) \times (1 - 0.376)] = 50,655.628 \approx 50,656$ persons

The annual estimate for the number of homeless people in Southern Nevada was 33,882 persons in 2013, which represents a 21.7% decrease (9,412 persons) from the 2011 annual estimate of 43,294 persons.

According to the annual estimate above, and the 2010 U.S. Census population profile, homelessness makes up 1.7% of Southern Nevada's total population of 1,951,269 people.

Figure 9: Point-In-Time Homeless Count & Annual Estimate of Homelessness Net Change

	2007	2009	2011	2013	2011-2013 Net Change	2011-2013 Percent Change
Point-in-Time Count	11,417	13,338	9,432	7,355	-2,077	-22.0%
Annual Estimate	50,656	52,458	43,294	33,882	-9,412	-21.7
Total Population	1,691,213 (2005)	1,774,086 (2005-2007)	1,951,269 (2010)	1,951,269 (2010)	0.0	0.0%
Point-in-Time to Annual Multiplier	4.4	3.9	4.6	4.6	0.0	--
Percentage of Total Population	3.0%	3.0%	2.2%	1.7%	-0.5	--

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Note: The net change for the total population from 2009 to 2011 was 11,183.^{14, 15}

4. HOMELESS SURVEY FINDINGS

HOMELESSNESS PROFILE

This section of the 2013 Southern Nevada Census and Survey Report provides a comprehensive overview of the scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada. The information was generated from the data obtained through the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey.

The 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey was administered during the weeks directly following the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count. A total of 860 unique surveys were completed, and there were 8 refusals. Missing values have been intentionally omitted from the survey results. Thus, the total amount of respondents for each question will not always coincide with the total number of surveys.

The following is an overview of the results. Due to the limitations in connecting homeless individuals to their clinical profiles, the surveys were designed to yield data reflecting self-described and self-defined responses.*

* Additional information regarding the Southern Nevada Homeless Survey can be found in the appendices, including: Overall Homeless Survey Results (*Appendix III*), the Survey Instrument (*Appendix IV*), and the complete Homeless Census & Survey Methodology (*Appendix VI*).

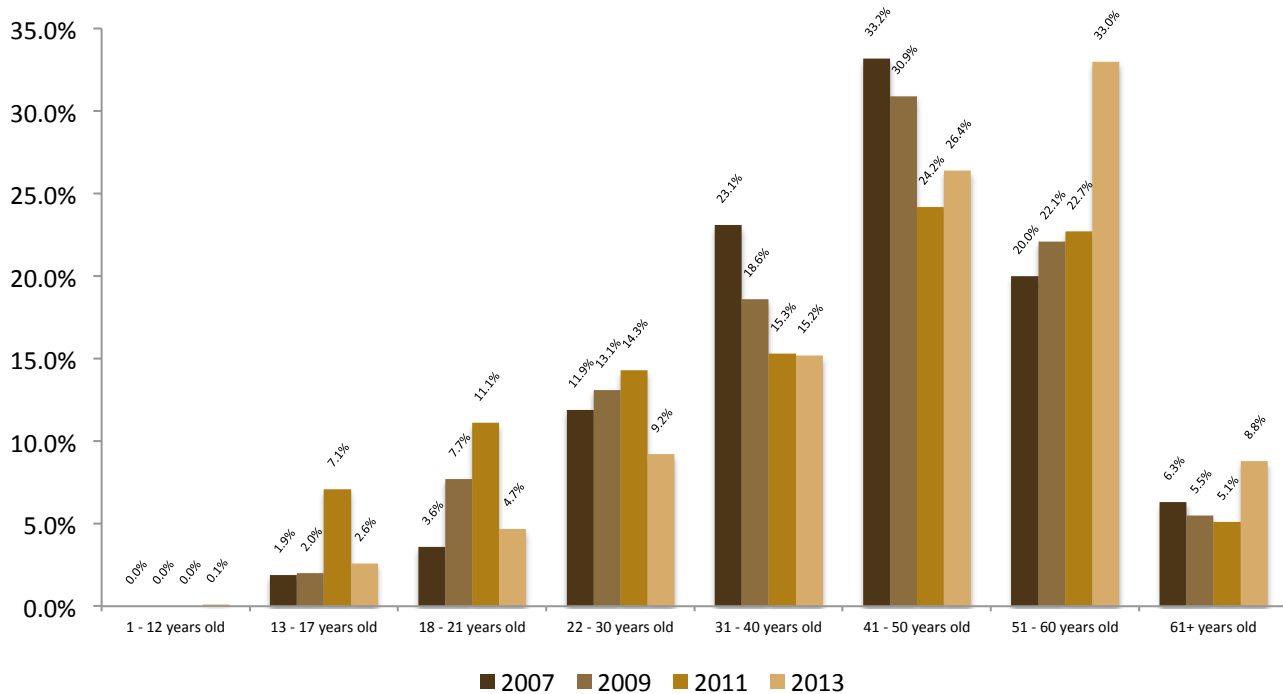
4.1 DEMOGRAPHICS

Understanding the demographics of the Southern Nevada homeless population is key to defining the specific needs of this population. This information can be used to create more effective programs, alter existing programs, and predict future challenges.

In order to obtain demographic information characterizing the homeless residents in Southern Nevada, the survey participants answered several questions pertaining to age, gender, ethnicity, and family status.

4.1.1. Age

Figure 10: Survey Respondents by Age



N: 2007=1349; 2009=937; 2011=547; 2013= 822

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

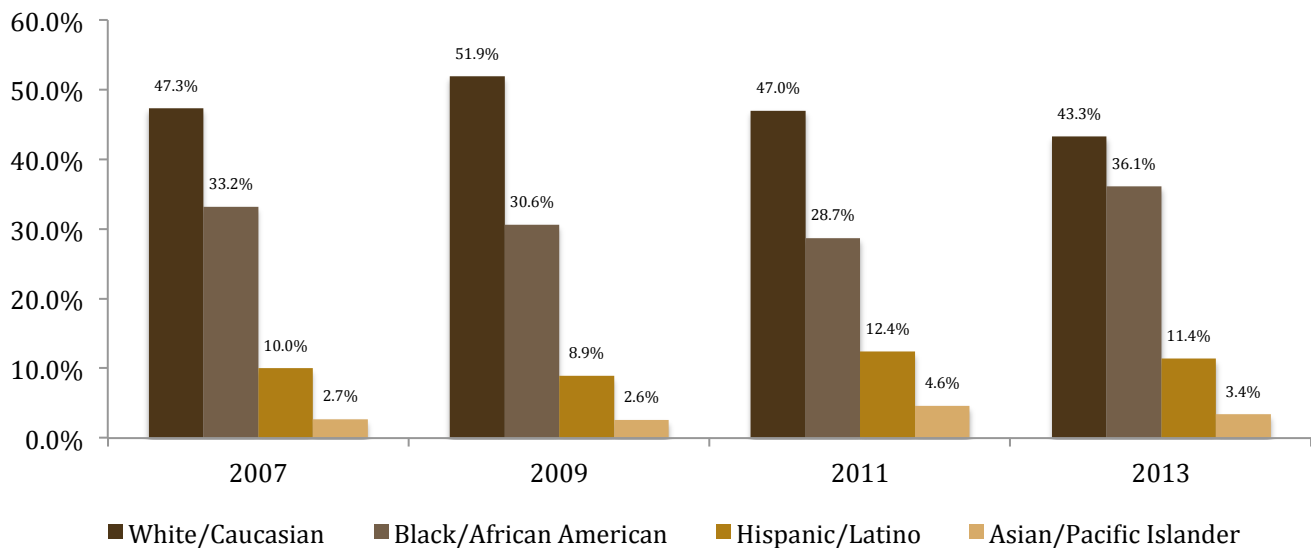
Summary:

- 33.0% of respondents were between the ages of 51 and 60. Interestingly, this amount is higher for this age group than 2011 (22.7%).
- 2.7% of survey respondents were under the age of 17. Complete data is unavailable for previous years.
- 4.7% of respondents were between the ages of 18 and 21. This is lower than 2011 (11.1%).
- 8.8% of survey respondents were over the age of 61. This is higher than 2011 when only 5.1% reported belonging to this age group.

4.1.2 Race/Ethnicity

According to the 2010 AHAR (the most comprehensive and up-to-date resource for homelessness data thus far), individual homeless persons are more likely to be White males over the age of 30.¹⁹ In Southern Nevada, 73.8 percent of the 2013 survey respondents indicated they were of male gender. This data can be coupled with the 43.3 percent of 2013 survey respondents who identified their racial/ethnic group as White/Caucasian.

Figure 11: Respondents by Race/Ethnicities (Top 4 Ethnicities)



N: 2007=1374; 2009=940; 2011=542; 2013= 844

N: 2010 General Southern Nevada Population=1,951,265; 2012 General Estimated Southern Nevada Population = 2,000,759

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 43.3% of survey respondents identified their racial/ethnic group as White/Caucasian. The US Census Bureau indicates that 74% of the estimated 2011 general population of Southern Nevada identified as White/Caucasian.²⁰
- 36.1% of respondents identified their racial/ethnic group as Black/African American. The percentage for this category has increased since 2011 (28.7%). In contrast, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates that only 11% of the estimated 2011 general population of Southern Nevada identified as Black/African American.²⁰
- 11.4% of respondents identified their racial/ethnic group as Hispanic/Latino. The percentage for this category has decreased by 10 percentage points since 2011. These amounts can be compared to the U.S. Census Bureau estimate, which indicates that over 30% of the estimated 2011 general population of Southern Nevada identified as Hispanic/Latino.²⁰
- 3.4% of respondents identified their racial/ethnic group as Asian/Pacific Islander. This category did not fall within the top 4 race/ethnicities in 2013; between 2011 and 2013, it dropped from 4.6% to 3.4%. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 8.4% of the estimated 2011 Southern Nevada general population identified as Asian/Pacific Islander.²⁰
- 4.6% of respondents identified their racial/ethnic group as Other/Multi-Ethnic. Information for this category is not available for previous years, but was among the top 4 race/ethnicities for 2013. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that a similar amount (4%) of the estimated 2011 Southern Nevada general population identified as having two or more race/ethnicities.²⁰

4.1.3 Gender

Past homeless surveys nationwide have consistently found that the majority of homeless adults are male.¹⁶ Southern Nevada has experienced the continuation of this trend in 2013; the majority of survey respondents identified as male.

Summary:

- 73.8% of respondents identified as male.
- 25.8 % of respondents identified as female.
 - 3.9% of female respondents reported they were pregnant.
- 0.4% of respondents identified as transgender.

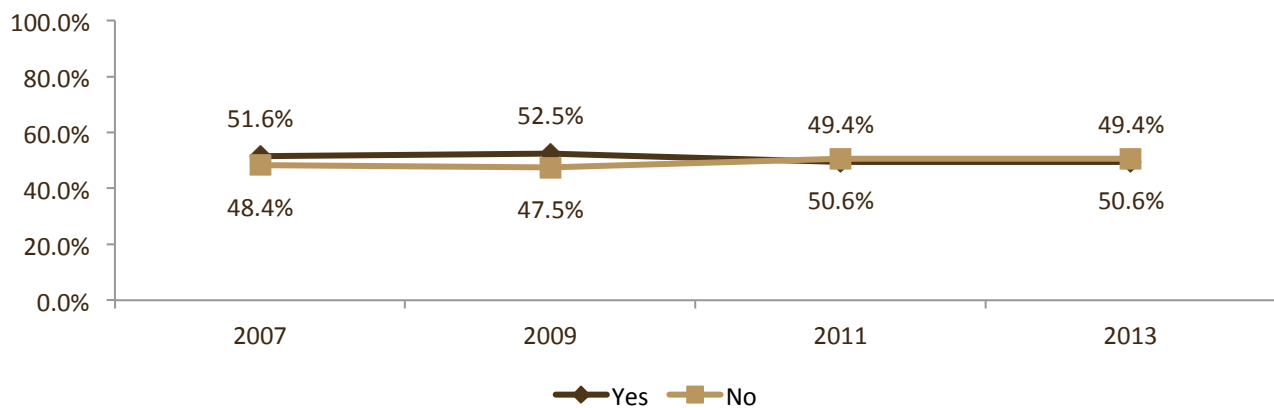
4.2 HOMELESSNESS CONDITIONS

The following section is organized to create a broad view of the various elements, characteristics, and causes of homelessness. This section details the duration and frequency of homelessness, living conditions, and obstacles that homeless persons face when trying to secure permanent housing. Employment and income status are also discussed in depth.

4.2.1 Conditions Prior To Homelessness

Occurrence of Homelessness

Figure 12: Is This The First Time You've Been Homeless?



N: 2007= 1,360; 2009= 935; 2011= 547; 2013=822

Source:

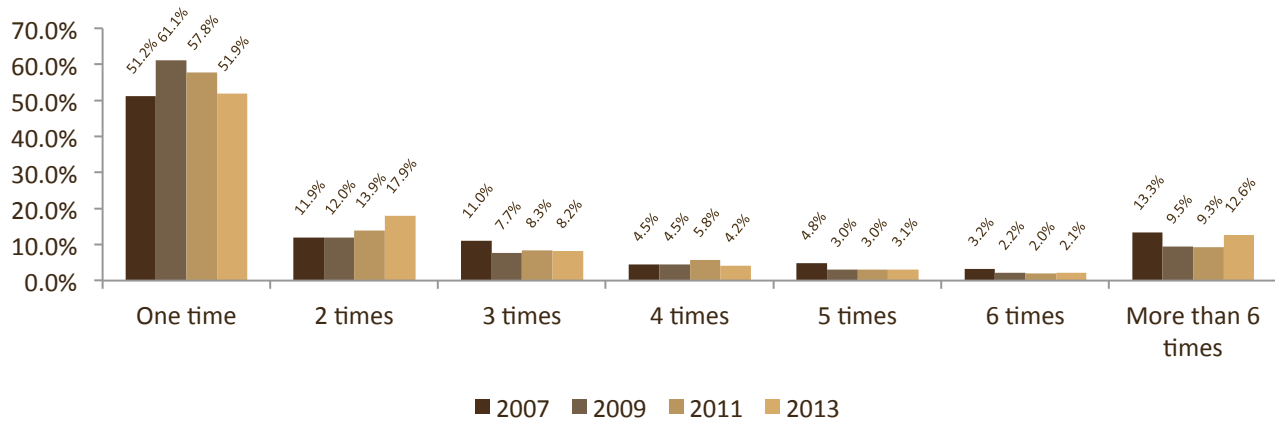
Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- More survey respondents (49.4%) reported that they were homeless for the first time compared to 2009, and 2007. However, the amount is not substantially different from that of 2011.

Figure 13: Number of Times Respondents Had Been Homeless in the Last 3 Years, Including This Time



N: 2007= 1,341; 2009= 935; 2011= 547; 2013= 619

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

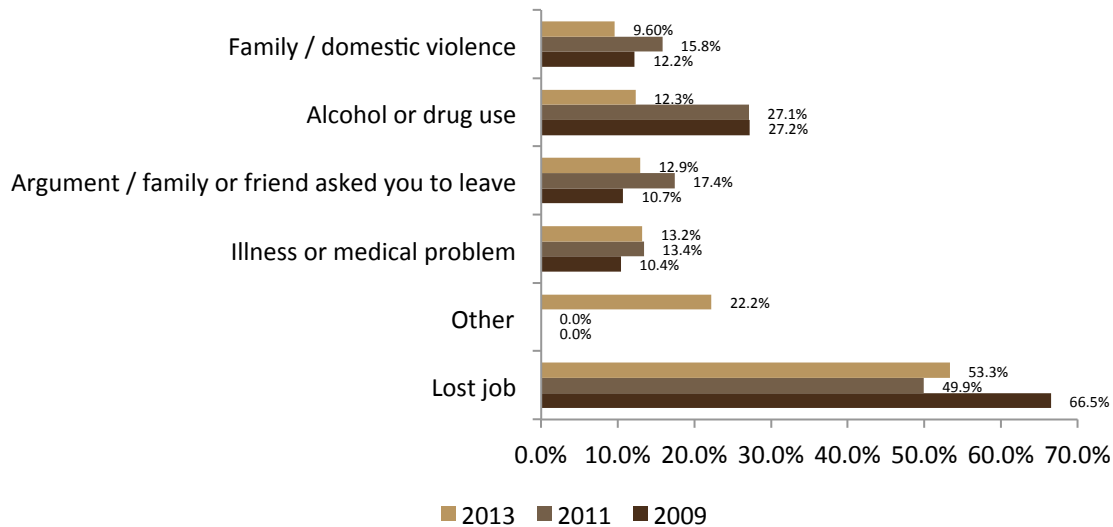
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- Between 2011 and 2013, the percentage of survey respondents who have been homeless four or more times in the last three years increased from 20% to 22%. This is important due to the fact that this is one of the criterion that determines whether a person can be deemed *chronically homeless*. More details on the definition for chronic homelessness are available in *Appendix VII-Glossary and Definition of Terms*.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount survey respondents reporting six or more homeless episodes within the last three years increased by 3.3%. Past surveys (since 2007) indicate a steady increase in this category.

Primary Causes of Homelessness

Figure 14: Top Events That Led to Respondents' Homelessness (Top 6 Responses in 2013)



Multiple response question:

2009: 938 respondents provided 1,974 responses; 2011: 518 respondents provided 1,014 responses; 2013: 823 respondents provided 1,460 responses

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2009, 2011) 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

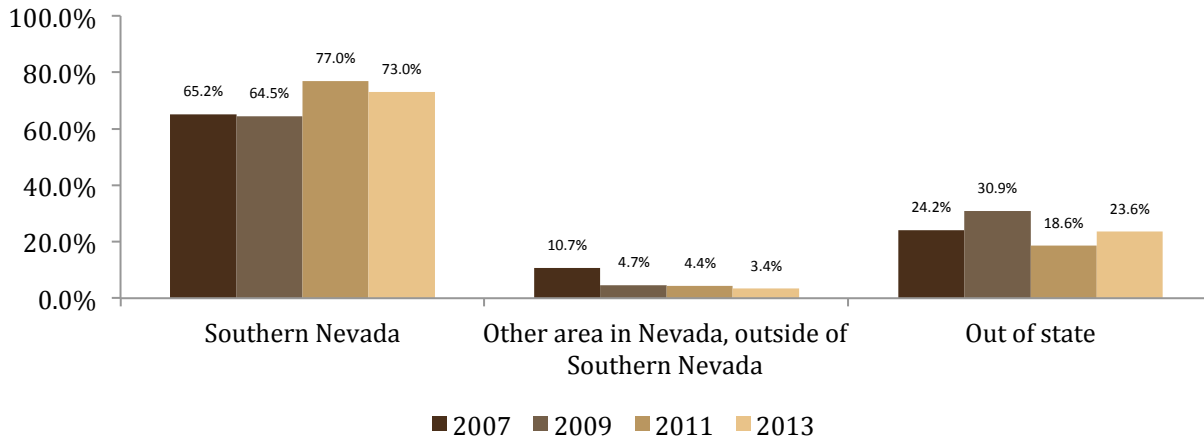
Note: 2007 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 53.3% of 2013 survey respondents cited *job loss* as the primary cause of their homelessness, making it the primary cause of homelessness for the majority of this population. In 2011, *job loss* was also the most frequently cited primary cause of homelessness, but it comprised of only 49.9% of respondents.
- Other* was the second most commonly cited cause of homelessness (22.2%). This category was marked as *Non Applicable* in previous reports, therefore this data cannot be compared to previous years.
- Alcohol Or Drug Use* dropped from its position as the second most commonly cited primary cause of homelessness in 2011 (27.1%). In 2013, it was only the fifth most commonly cited primary cause of homelessness, comprising of only 12.3% of survey respondents.
- A similar pattern emerged in the *Family and Domestic Violence* category. Between 2011 and 2013, *Family and Domestic Violence* decreased from 15.8% to 9.6% of survey responses.

County Residency Prior to Homelessness

Figure 15: Where Respondents Were Living at the Time They Most Recently Became Homeless



N:2007= 1,352; 2009= 940; 2011= 542; 2013= 798

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

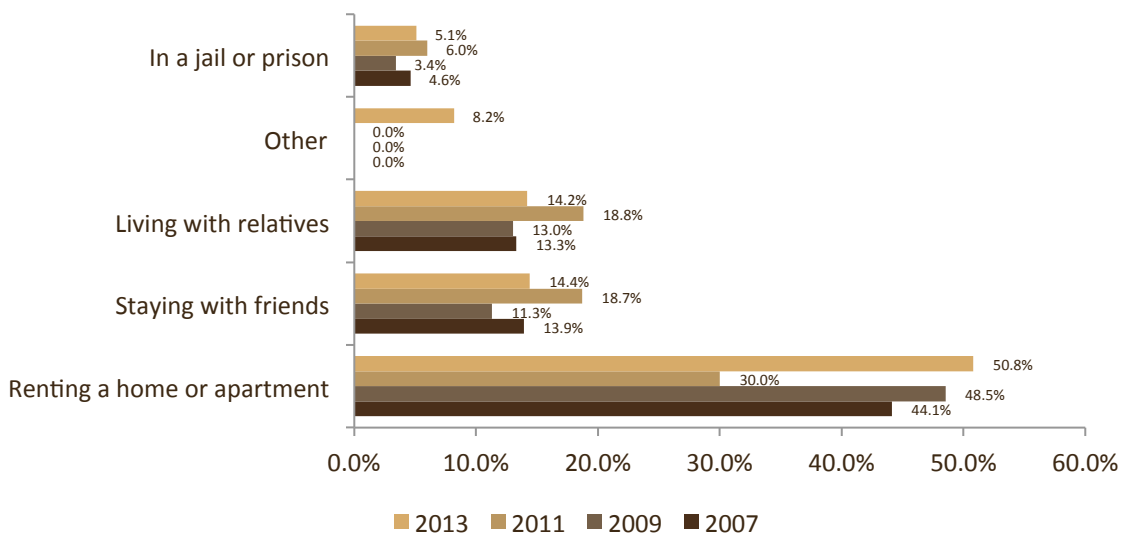
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- The majority of survey respondents (73.0%) reported living in Southern Nevada when they most recently became homeless.

Previous Living Arrangements

Figure 16: Living Arrangements Immediately Prior to Becoming Homeless This Time (Top 5 Responses in 2013)



N: 2007= 1,358; 2009= 973; 2011= 533; 2013; 819

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

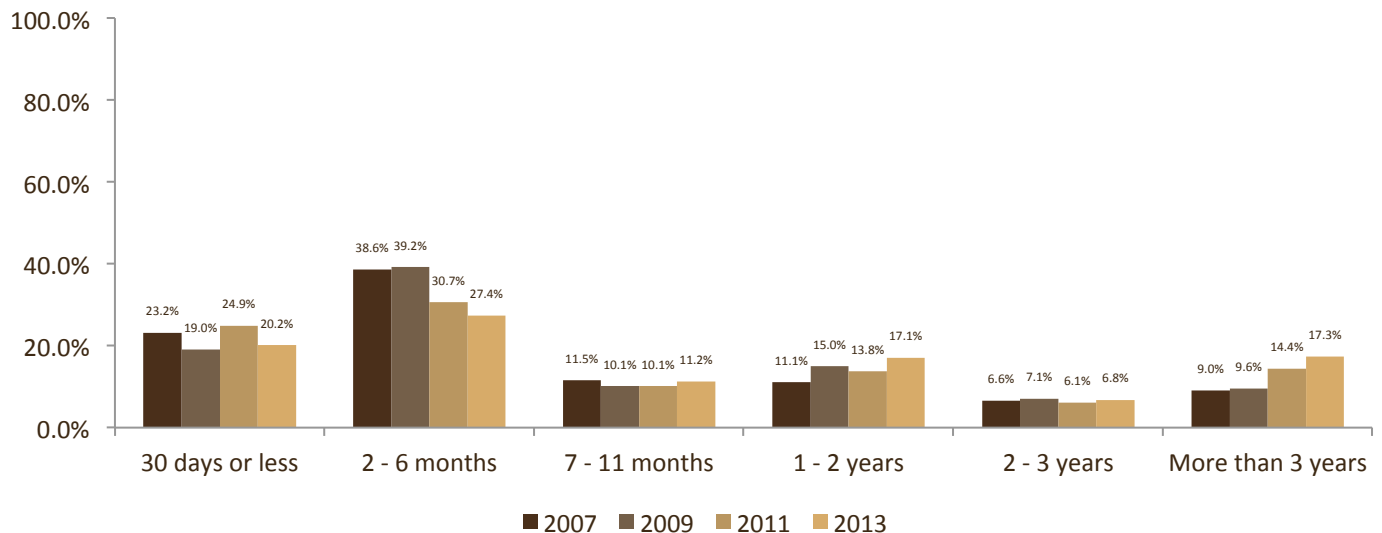
Summary:

- The majority (50.8%) of survey respondents reported that they were renting a home or apartment prior to becoming homeless. This is a 20.8% increase compared to 2011, when only 30.0% of respondents cited the same information.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of survey respondents reporting that they were in jail or prison immediately prior to becoming homeless decreased from in 6.0% to 5.1%.

4.2.2 Living Conditions

Duration of Homelessness

Figure 17: Length of Time Since Last Permanent Housing Situation



N: 2007= 1,347; 2009= 933; 2011= 515; 2013= 810

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

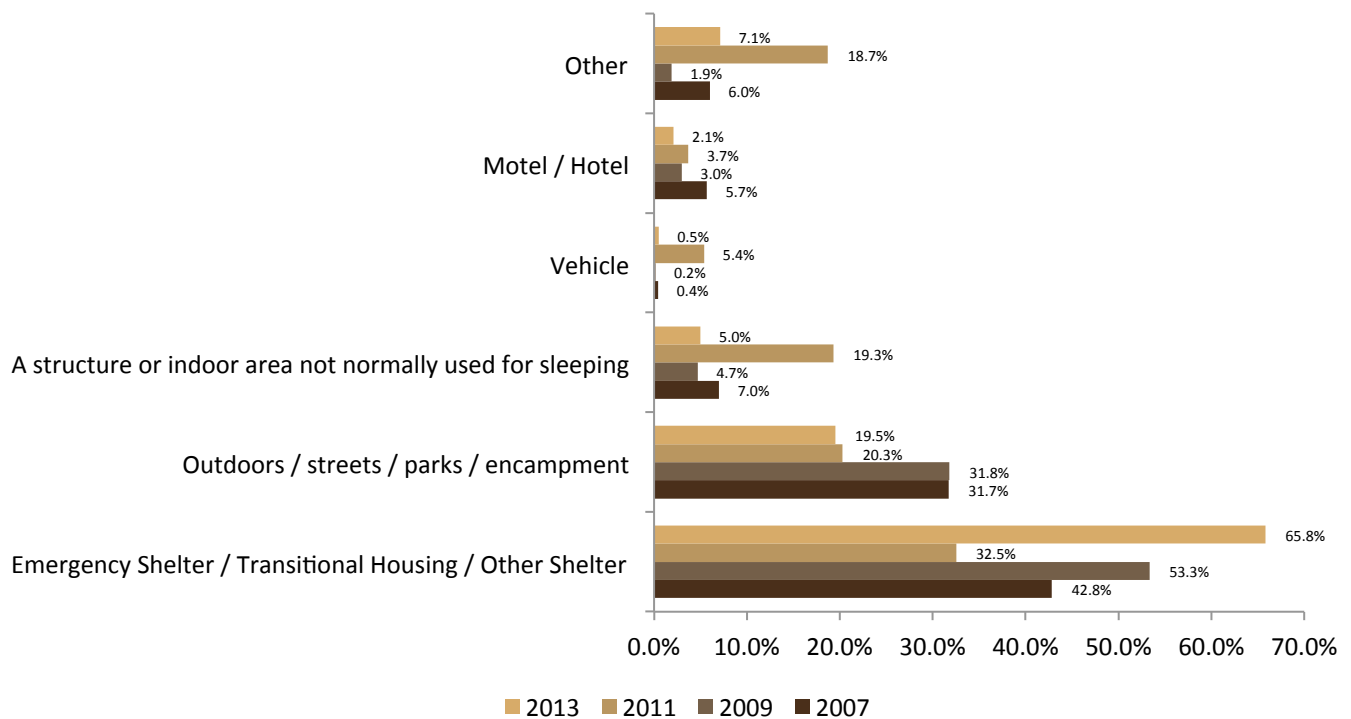
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 41.2% of the 2013 survey respondents met one of the criterion used to determine chronic homelessness by reporting that they had been homeless for a year or more since their last housing situation.* This is higher than 2011, when 34% reported the same information.
- 20.2% of survey respondents reported having been homeless for 30 days or less, which is a decrease from the 24.9% recorded in 2011.
- 17.3% of 2013 survey respondents indicated they had been homeless for three years or longer. The amount of persons homeless for 3 or more years increased since 2011, when only 14.4% of survey respondents qualified for this category.

Typical Nighttime Accommodations

Figure 18: Where Respondents Typically Stay at Night



N: 2007= 1,358; 2009= 931; 2011= 531; 2013= 816

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

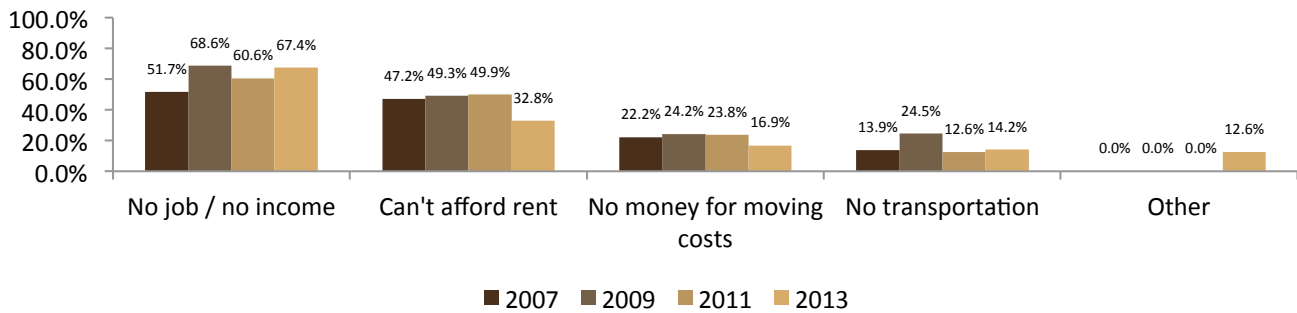
* This condition is one of the components used to determine whether a person can be considered "chronically homeless" (see Homeless Survey-Homeless Subpopulations section for more information)

Summary:

- 19.5% of survey respondents reported living outdoors (streets, parks, encampments). This is relatively similar to 2011, when 20.3% reported the same living arrangement.
- 65.8% of survey respondents reported sheltered living accommodations (emergency shelter, transitional housing, other shelter). This amount is 3% percent higher than 2011 (32.5%).

Obstacles to Obtaining Permanent Housing

Figure 19: Circumstances That Were Preventing Respondents From Securing Permanent Housing (Top 5 Responses in 2013)



Multiple response question

1,353 respondents provided 2,427 responses in 2007; 933 respondents provided 1,953 responses in 2009; 529 respondents provided 995 responses in 2011; 810 respondents provided 1,427 responses in 2013

Source:

Applied Survey Research(2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive

Summary:

- As with previous surveys (since 2007), *No Job/No Income* was the most commonly cited obstacle to obtaining housing in 2013 (67.4%). This amount is higher than that of 2011 (60.6%).
- Only 32.8% of 2013 survey respondents cited *Inability To Afford Rent* as their primary obstacle to obtaining permanent housing. This amount is substantially lower than 2011 (49.9%).

4.2.3 Income & Employment

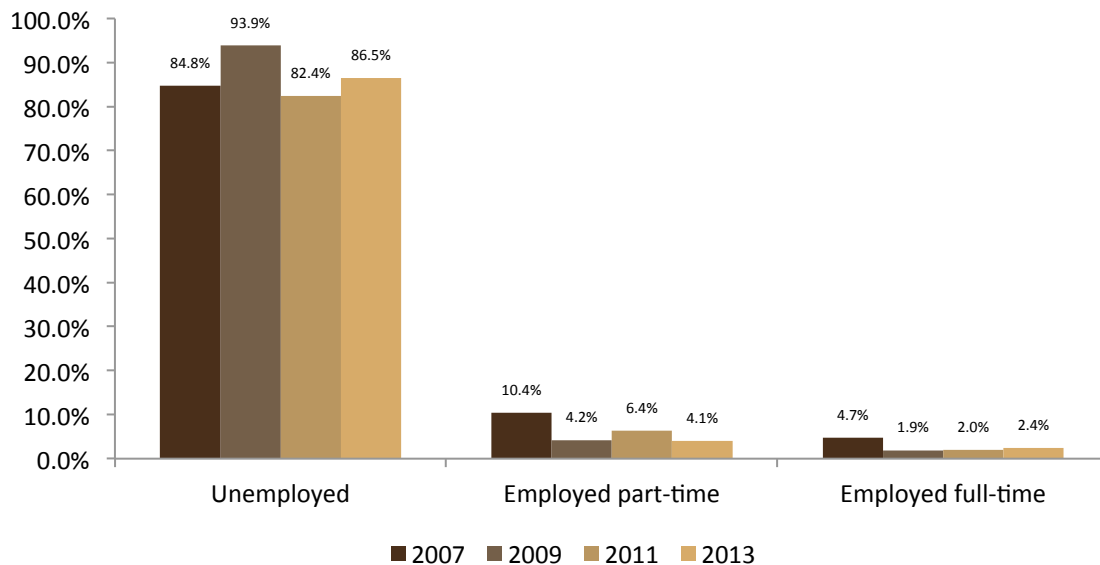
Employment Status

The 2012 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines, updated periodically in the *Federal Register* by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2), indicates that the official 2012 poverty level for an individual is \$11,700, or \$975 per month.²¹ Note that the poverty level has remained relatively stable since 2009 when it was \$908/month.²²

This poverty level differs significantly from the self-sufficiency standard, which provides a more realistic amount for true cost of living. The self-sufficiency standard, which is \$1,528 per month in Southern Nevada, is a measure of income adequacy that calculates how much income from a working adult is sufficient to meet their family's needs without government subsidies.²³

As shown in previous reports, lack of income has a substantial impact on the rate of homelessness in Southern Nevada. In previous years, utilization of government assistance has been low. This trend continued, although utilization of moderate amounts of government assistance has increased slightly since 2007.

Figure 20: Employment Status of Respondents



N: 2007= 1,369; 2009= 939; 2011= 524; 2013= 830

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Note: additional response options were added in 2011, so these numbers are not directly comparable.

Summary:

- 86.5% of survey respondents reported they were experiencing unemployment at the time of the survey. This amount represents an increase compared to 2011 (82.4%).

Figure 21: Respondent's Barriers to Getting Employment (Top 10 Responses in 2013)

	2007	2009	2011	2013	2011-2013 Net Change
Response					
No jobs	8.7%	36.6%	29.3%	28.6%	-0.7
No transportation	24.2%	35.5%	20.8%	24.3%	3.5
No permanent address	25.0%	28.8%	17.7%	19.9%	2.2
Health Problems	9.8%	9.0%	15.0%	15.9%	0.9
Disabled	10.1%	12.0%	15.0%	14.6%	-0.4
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.4%	N/A
Need training	16.2%	19.0%	21.1%	13.1%	-8.0
Need clothing	17.7%	16.7%	13.6%	11.0%	-2.6
Need education	10.4%	13.8%	18.4%	10.4%	-8.0
Criminal record	7.5%	10.0%	13.7%	10.5%	-3.2

Multiple response question

1,151 respondents provided 2,605 responses in 2007; 874 respondents provided 2,321 responses in 2009; 487 respondents provided 1,141 responses in 2011; 762 respondents provided 1,573 responses in 2013

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

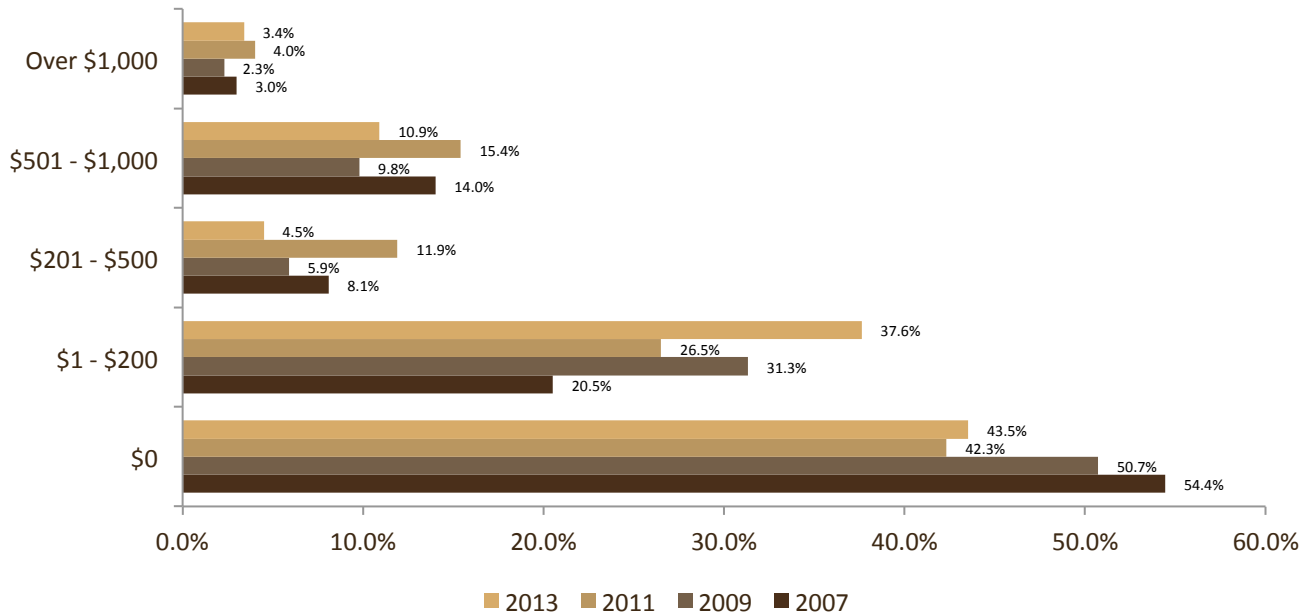
NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive.

Summary:

- The categories *Need Training* and *Need Education* decreased by 8.0% compared to 2011.
- Lack of transportation as a barrier to obtaining employment increased by 3.5% compared to 2011.

Income – From Government Benefits

Figure 22: Total (Gross) Monthly Income From All Government Benefits



N: 2007= 1,341; 2009= 931; 2011= 516; 2013= 816

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 14.3% of survey respondents claimed to be receiving more than \$500 per month in government benefits, which is, in general, less than previous years.
- The amount of survey participants (43.5%) who reported to be receiving no money from government benefits remained relatively the same compared to 2011 (42.3%).

Income – From Private Non-Government Sources

Summary:

- 2013 data indicates homeless individuals seem to be receiving lower amount of income from other sources (e.g. panhandling, recycling, etc.). More specifically, 73.5% of 2013 survey respondents claimed to be receiving no money from other sources. This is a 34.5% increase from 2011 (39.0%).
- 93.7% of the 2013 survey respondents were receiving \$500 or less from other sources. This is a 61.7% increase from 2011 (32.0%).

Income – From Other Sources

NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive

Summary:

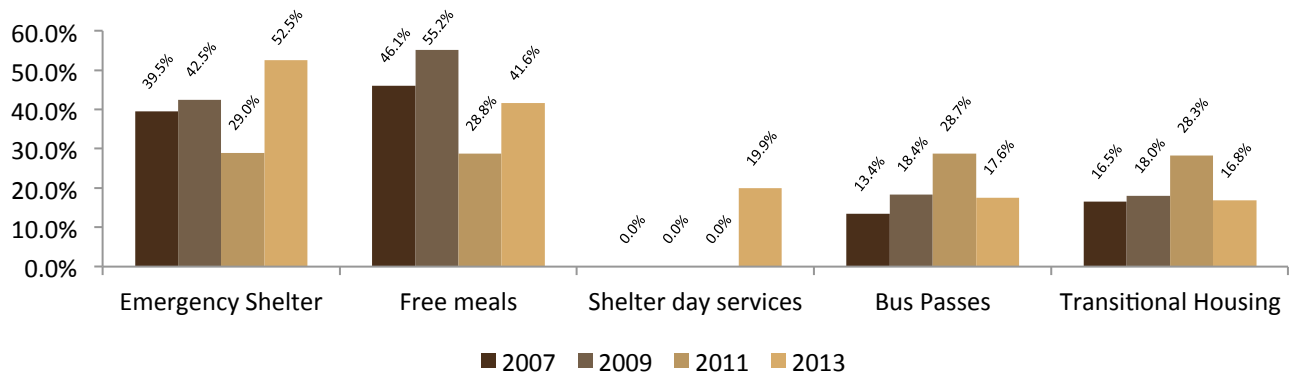
- From 2011 to 2013, the amount of survey respondents receiving income from family and friends decreased from 37.0% to 30.3%.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of income survey respondents were obtaining through recycling increased from 6.0% to 6.5%.

4.3 UTILIZATION OF GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE & HOMELESS PROGRAMS

4.3.1 Services & Programs

Type of Assistance Received & Barriers to Assistance

Figure 23: Of Those Using Any Services or Assistance, Types of Services or Assistance Used (Top 5 Responses in 2013)



Multiple response question.

1,287 respondents provided 1,608 responses in 2007; 921 respondents provided 1,170 responses in 2009; 520 respondents provided 701 responses in 2011; 831 respondents provided 1717 in 2013

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

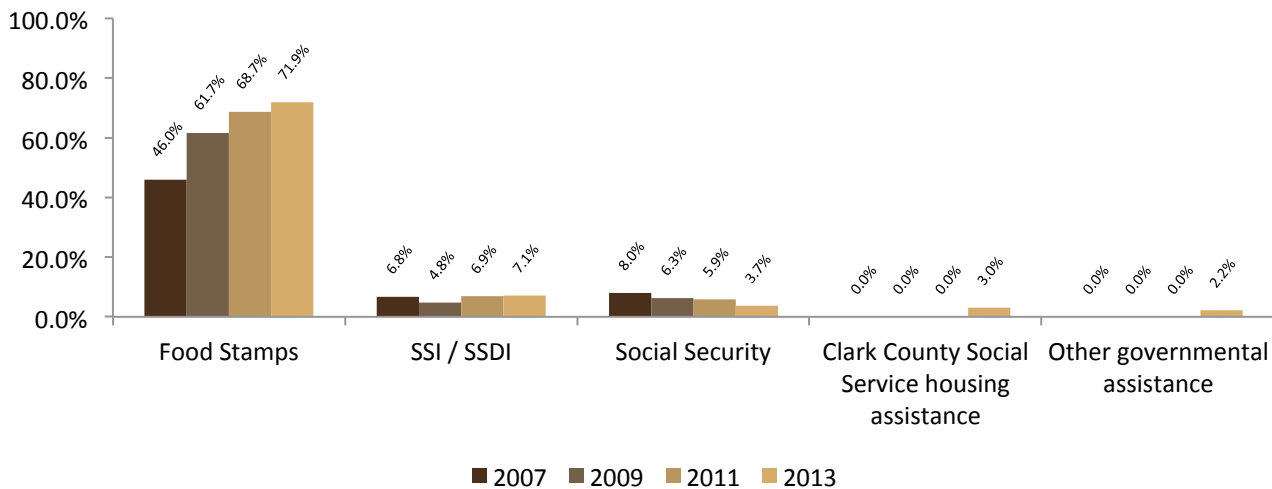
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive

Summary:

- Between 2011 and 2013, utilization of Emergency Shelters increased from 29.0% to 52.5%. Again, it should be noted that, due to funding cuts, Clark County Social Service revised their financial assistance program to provide short-term assistance, thus changing the classification of their project from Transitional Housing to Emergency Shelter. This organization accounts for a significant number of beds, thus this change should be taken into consideration when comparing Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing data for 2011 and 2013.
- Usage of *Bus Passes* and *Transitional Housing* decreased since 2011.
- 19.9% of 2013 survey respondents reported using *Shelter Day Services*. Information for this category is unavailable for previous years.

Figure 24: Of Those Receiving Some Form of Government Assistance, Types of Assistance Received (Top 5 Responses in 2013)



Multiple response question

1,355 respondents provided 2,810 responses in 2007; 938 respondents provided 1,988 responses in 2009; 510 respondents provided 1,168 responses in 2011; 807 respondents provided 927 responses in 2013

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:*

- 79.7% of 2013 survey respondents reported receiving some sort of government benefits, while 20.3% reported receiving no government benefits.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of survey respondents receiving some sort of government benefit increased only slightly from 79% to 79.7%.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of survey respondents receiving food stamps increased from 68.7% to 71.9%.

4.3.2 Aging Out Of Foster Care

Transition from Foster Care

- In 2011, less than 1% of survey respondents cited *aging out of foster care* as their reason for homelessness. In 2013, 0.6% of respondents claimed that aging out of foster care was their primary reason for being homeless.

4.4 MEDICAL

Many homeless individuals, especially the chronically homeless subpopulation, suffer physical and development disability, chronic health problems, and mental illnesses such as PTSD and depression.

Although medical problems amongst homeless populations are disproportionate to that of the general population, they are the least likely to find, or even have access to, health care. Homeless persons typically seek out hospital emergency rooms when in need of medical attention, but those who do seek medical care at hospitals suffer from higher incidences of untreated mental illness and/or substance abuse.²⁴

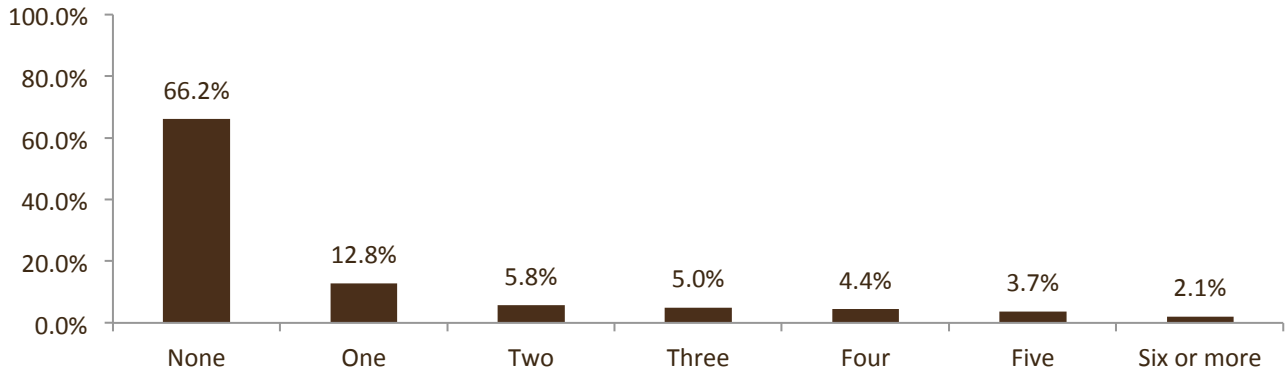
In 2011, 38 percent of the Southern Nevada survey respondents reported the hospital emergency room as their usual source of medical care compared to 8.1 percent that stated they utilize free/community clinics.³ In 2013 the amount of survey respondents reporting the hospital emergency room as their usual source of medical care dropped to 32.3 percent and the utilization of free/community clinics increased to 20.1 percent.

*For the purposes of this study, the following forms of government assistance were included: general assistance or general relief; food stamps; service-connected VA disability compensation; not service-connected VA pension; other veterans' benefits; social security; SSI/SSDI; TANF; WIC; Clark County social service housing assistance; other governmental assistance; no government assistance.

4.4.1 Health & Disability

Disabling Conditions

Figure 25: Number of Disabling Conditions Among All Homeless Respondents, 2013



2013= 860

Source:

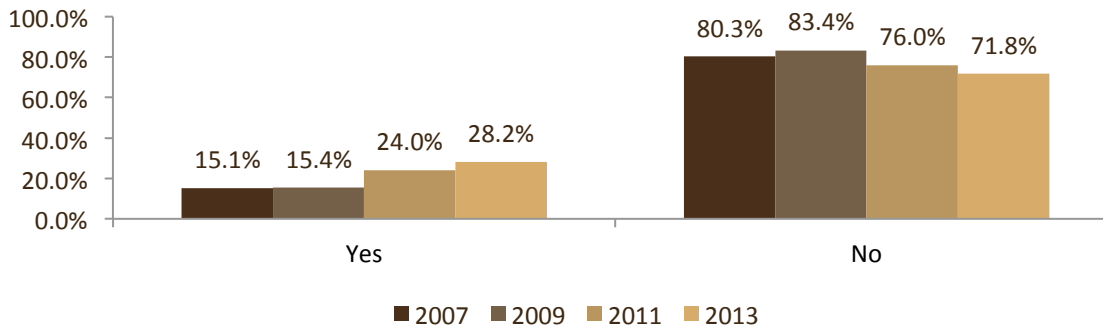
Applied Survey Research(2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 33.8% of survey respondents reported one or more disabling conditions.
- 66.2% of survey respondents reported no disabling conditions, while 2.1% of survey respondents reported six or more disabling conditions.

Chronic Health Problems

Figure 26: Are You Currently Experiencing Chronic Health Problems?



N: 2007= 1,294; 2009= 866; 2011= 494; 2013= 684

Source:

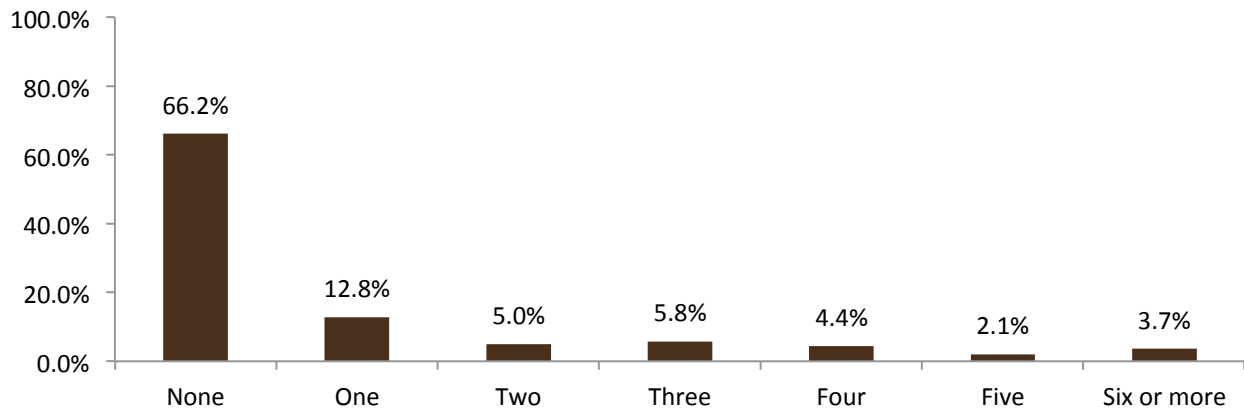
Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:*

- 28.2% of survey respondents reported that they were experiencing chronic health problems. This amount is higher compared to 2011 when 24.0% of respondents indicated they were experience chronic health problems.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of chronic health problems among homeless individuals has increased by 4.2%

Physical & Developmental Disabilities

Figure 27: Percentage of Respondents Who Were Currently Experiencing a Physical or Developmental Disability



2007: Physical Disability N= 1,308; Developmental Disability N= 1,301; 2009: Physical Disability N= 874; Developmental Disability N= 883; 2011: Physical Disability N= 505; Developmental Disability N= 485; 2013: Physical Disability N= 684; Developmental Disability N= 681;

NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

* For the purposes of this study, disabling condition is defined as any one of (1) a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment which is (a) expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration, (b) substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and (c) of such a nature that such ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; (3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; (4) the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiological agency for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder. The survey questions that were applied to these standards included the existence of one or more of the following: physical disability, mental illness, depression, alcohol/drug abuse, domestic violence/abuse, chronic health problem, AIDS/HIV related illness, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, PTSD, Developmental Disability, Emphysema, Diabetes, Asthma, Cancer, Kidney disease/renal/dialysis, history of hypothermia/frostbite, liver disease/cirrhosis, heart disease/arrhythmia.

Summary: Physical Disabilities

- 34.9% of survey respondents indicated they were currently experiencing a physical disability.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of respondents reporting physical disabilities increased by 3.9%.

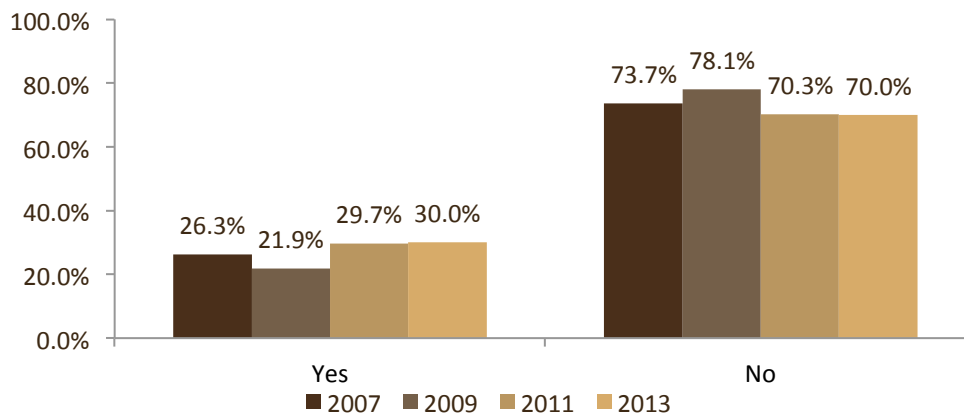
Summary: Developmental Disabilities

- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of respondent reporting developmental disabilities increased by 1.1%.
- In 2013, 5.3% of survey respondents indicated they were currently experiencing a developmental disability.

4.4.2 Medical Care

Access to Medical Care

Figure 28: Have You Needed Medical Care and Been Unable to Receive It Since Becoming Homeless This Last Time?



N: 2007= 1,325; 2009= 931; 2011= 489; 2013= 766

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

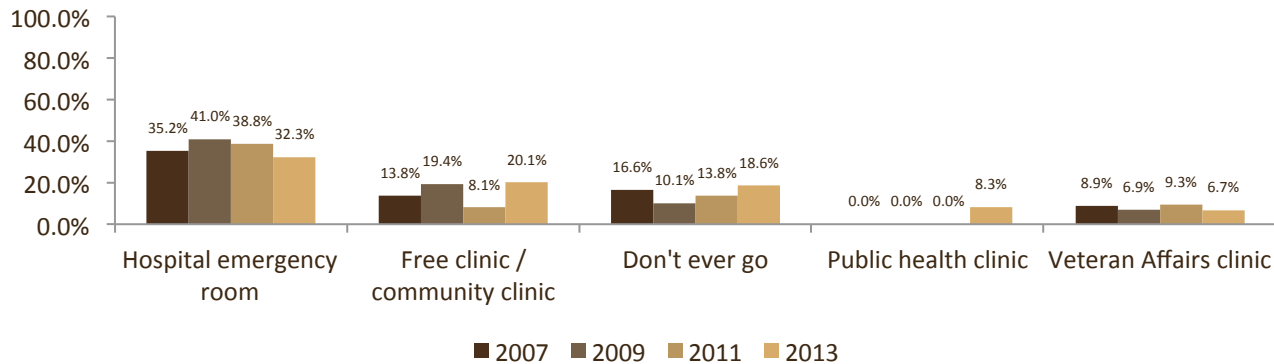
Summary:

- From 2011 to 2013, the amount of survey respondents reporting they needed medical attention but were unable to receive it increased by 0.3%.

- 70.0% of 2013 survey respondents indicated that they have been able to receive medical care when they needed it since most recently becoming homeless. This is a 0.3% decrease from 2011 when 70.3% of the respondents reported they were able to receive medical care when they needed it.

Sources of Medical Care

Figure 29: Respondents' Usual Source of Medical Care (Top 5 Responses in 2013)



N: 2007= 1,331; 2009= 930; 2011= 511; 2013= 824

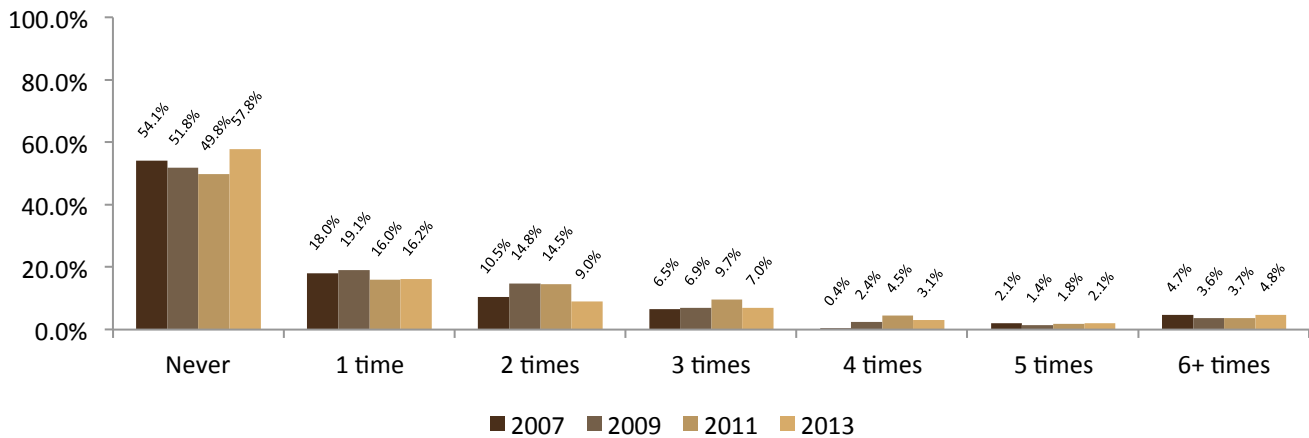
Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 32.3% of survey respondents reported using the *Hospital Emergency Room* (ER) as their usual source of medical care. This amount is less than that of 2011, when 38.8% of survey respondents indicated they used the ER as their usual source of medical care.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of survey respondents who cited the *Free Clinic/Community Clinic* as their usual source of medical care increased from 8.1% to 20.1%.
- 8.3% of respondents reported utilizing the *Public Health Clinic* as their primary source of medical care. However, no yearly comparison is available as previous reports made no mention of this category.
- 18.6% of survey respondents indicated that they did not receive any medical services.

Figure 30: Number of Times Respondents Had Used The Emergency Room For Any Treatment In The Year Prior to the Survey



N: 2007= 1,319; 2009= 923; 2011= 498; 2013= 845

Source:

Applied Survey Research(2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

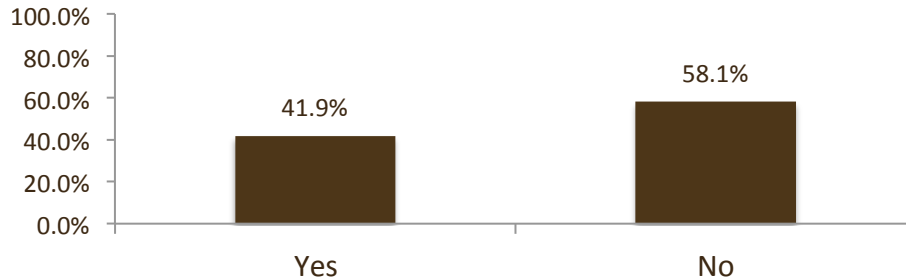
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- In 2013, 42.2% of respondents indicated that they used the ER at least once in the 12 months prior to the survey.
- The amount of respondents who claimed to never use the ER during the 12 months prior to the survey increased from 49.8% in 2011 to 57.8% in 2013.
- 4.8% of survey respondents claimed to have used the ER six or more times in the 12 months prior to the survey. This amount is higher than that of 2011 (3.7%).

4.4.3 Current And/Or Past Substance Abuse Experiences

Figure 31: Have You Ever Abused Drugs/Alcohol Or Been Told You Do?



N = 740

Source:

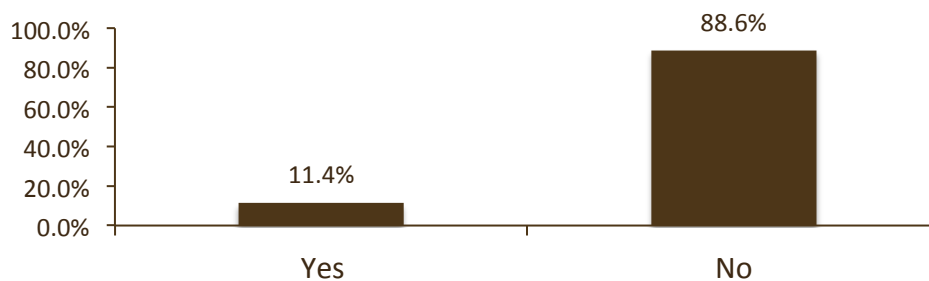
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2007,2009, 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 41.9% of survey respondents indicated that they had ever abused drugs/alcohol or had been told they do.

Figure 32: Have You Ever Consumed Alcohol Every Day For The Past Month?



N = 731

Source:

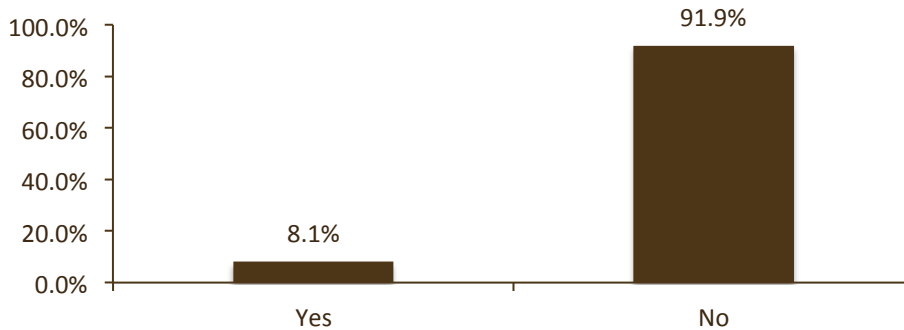
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2007,2009, 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 11.4% of survey respondents indicated that they had consumed alcohol every day for the past month.

Figure 33: Have You Ever Used Injection Drugs Or Shots?



N = 731

Source:

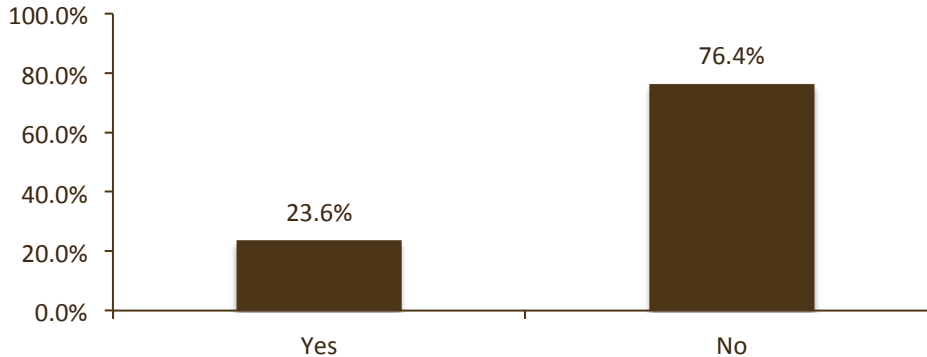
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: 2007, 2009, 2011 data is not comparable.

Summary:

- 8.1% of survey respondents indicated that they had ever used injection drugs or shots.

Figure 34: Have You Ever Been Treated For Alcohol Or Drug Abuse?



N = 712

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

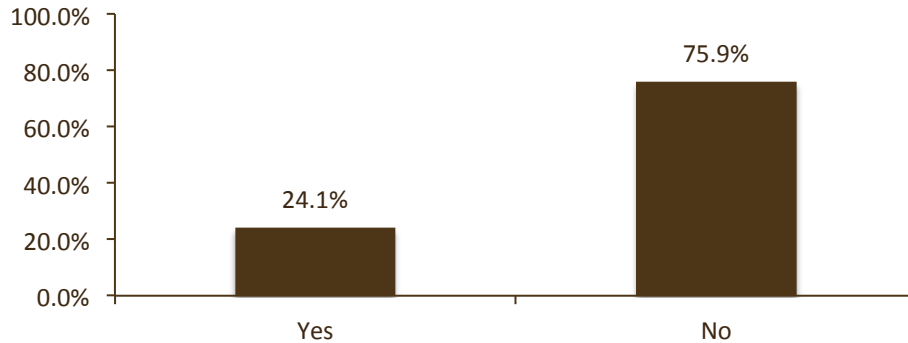
NOTE: 2007, 2009, 2011 data is not comparable.

Summary:

- 23.6% of survey respondents indicated that they had ever been treated for alcohol or drug abuse.

4.4.4 Current And/Or Past Mental Health Experiences

Figure 35: Are You Currently, Or Have You Ever, Received Treatment For Mental Health Issues?



N = 734

Source:

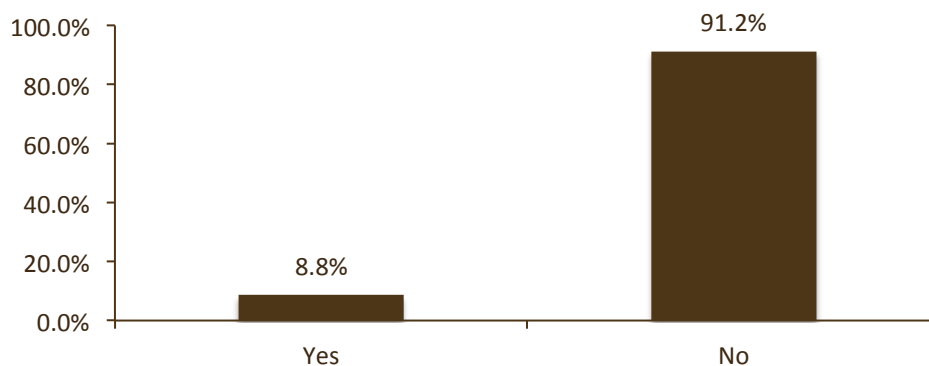
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2007,2009, 2011 data is not comparable.

Summary:

- 24.1% of survey respondents indicated that they are currently receiving treatment for mental health issues, or have in the past.

Figure 36: Were You Ever Taken To The Hospital Against Your Will For Mental Health Reasons?



N = 725

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

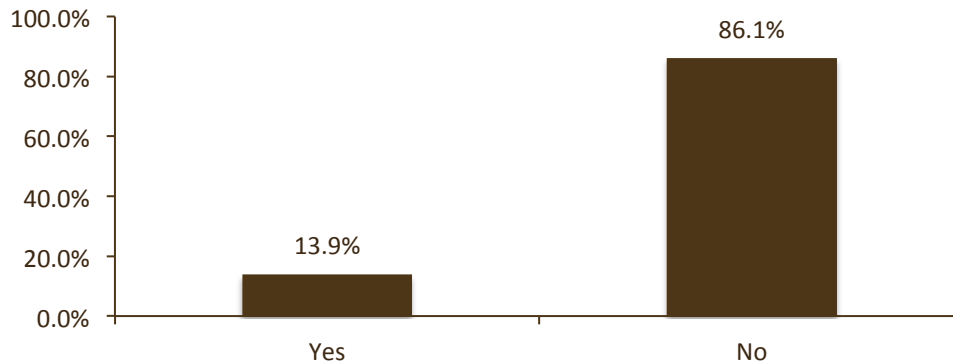
NOTE: 2007,2009, 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 8.8% of survey respondents indicated that they had ever been taken to the hospital against their will for mental health reasons.

4.4.5 Survey Administrator Observations

Figure 37: Observation – Serious Physical Health Conditions



N = 649

Source:

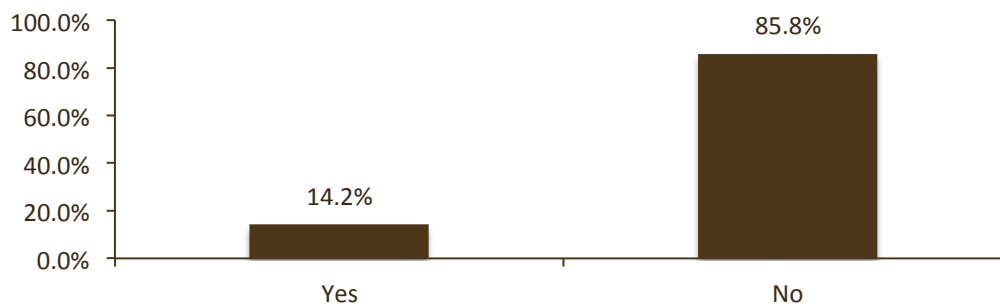
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: 2007,2009, 2011 data is not comparable.

Summary:

- 13.9% of respondents had observable signs of serious physical health conditions.

Figure 38: Observation – Alcohol Or Drug Abuse



N = 641

Source:

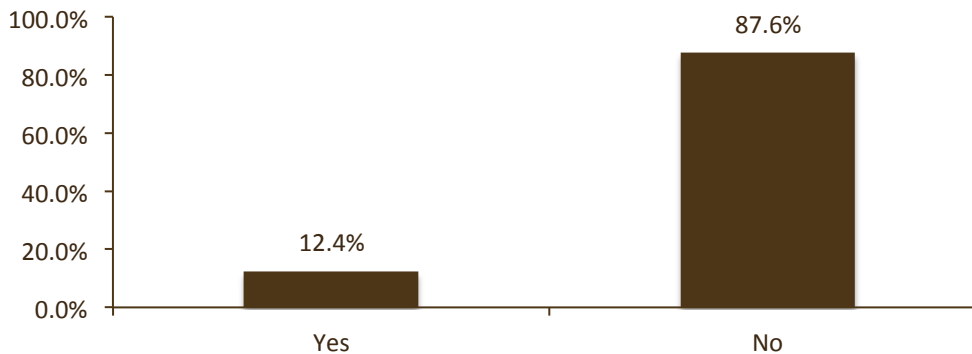
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: 2007,2009, 2011 data is not comparable.

Summary:

- 14.2% of respondents had observable signs of alcohol or drug abuse.

Figure 39: Observation – Severe Persistent Mental Illness



N = 623

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2007, 2009, 2011 data is not comparable.

Summary:

- 12.4% of respondents had observable signs of severe persistent mental illness.

4.5 INCARCERATION

The transition from incarceration to general society leaves many at risk for homelessness. A released prisoner has a 1-in-13 odds of becoming homeless.² Past survey results revealed that some individuals struggle with this transition in Southern Nevada.

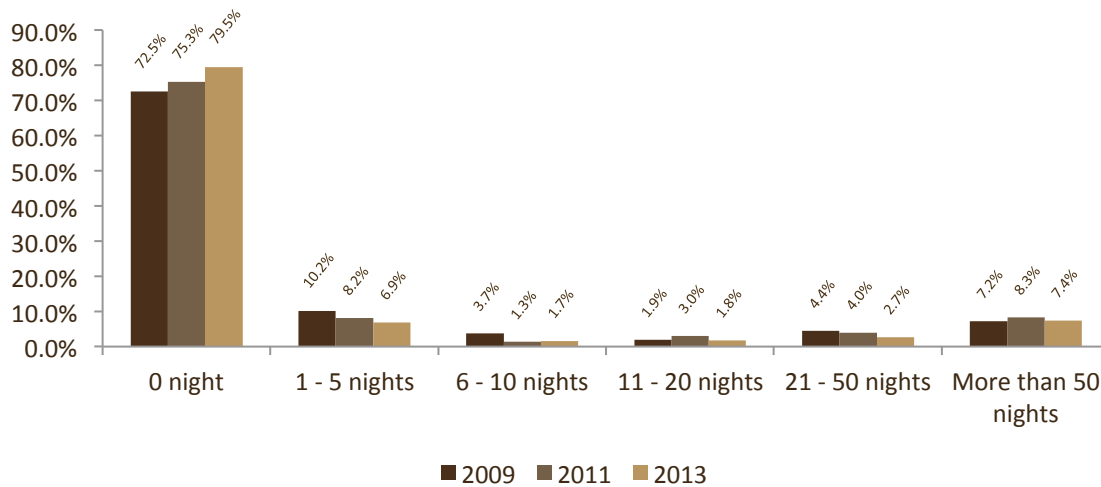
4.5.1 Transition From Jail Or Prison

- 5.1% of survey respondents reported they were incarcerated immediately before becoming homeless this time. This is less than 2011, when 56% of respondents reported being incarcerated immediately before becoming homeless this time.
- 9.0% of respondents cited incarceration as one of the top three reasons for their homelessness. This is a decrease from 2011, when this same category was 12%.
- A criminal record prevents many homeless individuals from securing permanent housing and employment. Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of homeless respondents who indicated their criminal record was preventing them from securing permanent housing decreased from 10.0% to 6.0%.

- Likewise, between 2011 and 2013, the amount of homeless respondents who indicated that their criminal record was preventing them from obtaining employment decreased from 14.0% to 10.5%.

4.5.2 Nights In Jail Or Prison

Figure 40: Number of Nights Respondents Reported Spending in Jail/Prison In The Year Prior To The Survey



N: 2009= 925; 2011= 527; 2013= 845

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2009, 2011) 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

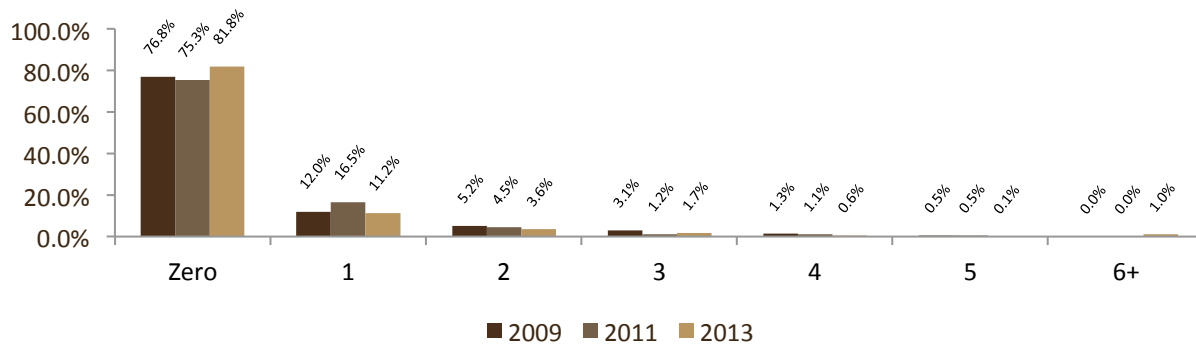
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: 2007 data is not comparable.

Summary:

- The majority (79.5%) of survey respondents had spent no nights in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey.
- 6.9% spent 1-5 nights in jail or prison, and 7.4% spent more than 50 nights in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey.

Figure 41: Number of Separate Terms Respondents Reported Serving in Jail/Prison In The Year Prior To The Survey



N: 2009= 861; 2011= 527; 2013= 619

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2009, 2011) 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: 2007 data is not comparable.

Summary:

- 81.8% of survey respondents reported spending no time in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey.
- 11.2% of survey respondents reported spending at least one separate term in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey.
- 1.0% of survey respondents reported spending six or more separate terms in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey.

4.6 HOMELESS FAMILIES

4.6.1 Homeless Families With Children: General Information

For the purposes of this report a homeless family is defined as a household consisting of at least one adult over the age of 18 with at least one child under the age of 18.

- 92.6% of survey respondents reported having children (including adult children). 15.6% of these respondents indicated that their children were currently residing with them.
 - Of these children (ages 5-17), 71.9% were reported to be in school.

Figure 42: Of Respondents With Children (Living With Them Or Not), Percentage with Children In The Following Age Groups, 2013

Age Group & Number of Children	2011 %	2013 %	2011-2013 Percent Change
0-5 Years Old			
1 Child	69.1%	66.7%	-2.4%
2 Children	22.4%	24.6%	2.2%
3 Children	8.5%	7.3%	-1.2%
4+ Children	0.0%	1.5%	1.5%
6-12 Years Old			
1 Child	59.8%	64.7%	4.9%
2 Children	26.6%	26.5%	-0.1%
3 Children	5.2%	4.4%	-0.8%
4+ Children	8.5%	4.4%	-4.1%
13-17 Years Old			
1 Child	72.7%	63.6%	-9.1%
2 Children	18.0%	27.3%	9.3%
3 Children	9.3%	5.5%	-3.8%
4+ Children	0.0%	3.6%	3.6%
18+ Years Old			
1 Child	40.3%	34.6%	-5.7%
2 Children	35.0%	34.6%	-0.4%
3 Children	12.3%	14.9%	2.6%
4+ Children	12.5%	15.9%	3.4%

N: 2011 - 0-5=88; 6-12=70; 13-17=44;18+=126; N: 2013 - 0-5=69; 6-12=68; 13-17=55;18+= 208

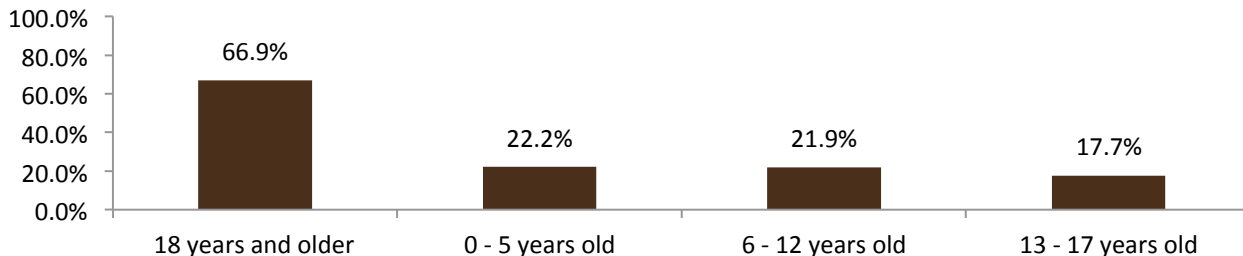
Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: 2009 & 2007 data unavailable.

Figure 43: Of Respondents With Children (Living With Them Or Not), Percentage With Children In The Following Age Groups, 2013



N: 2011 - 0-5=88; 6-12=70; 13-17=44;18+=126; N: 2013 - 0-5=69; 6-12=68; 13-17=55;18+= 208

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

4.6.2 Homeless Families With Children: Additional Information

Child Education

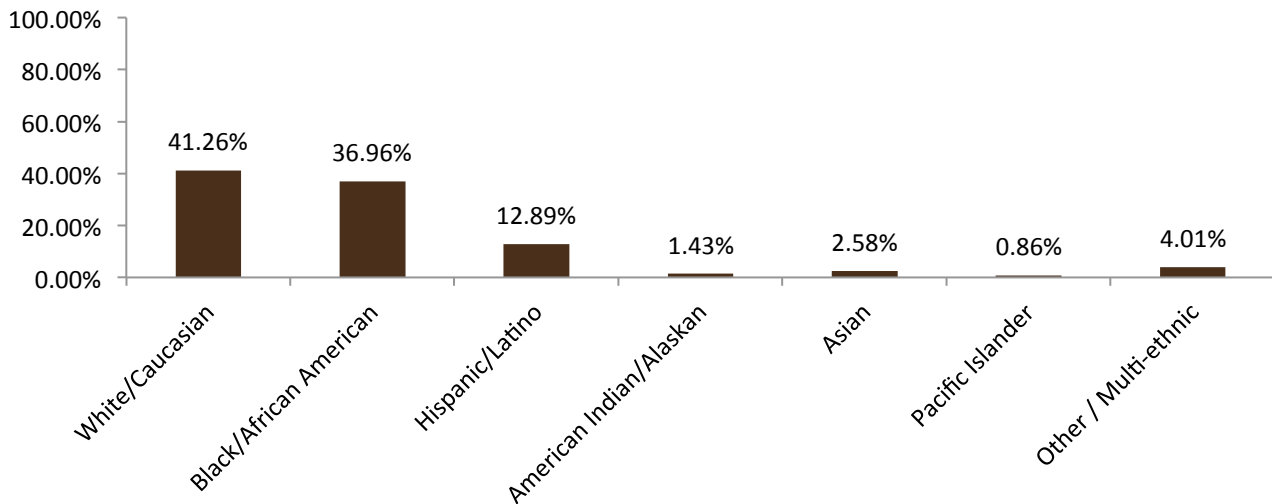
- 71.9% of respondents claimed that their school-aged children (ages 5-17) were enrolled in school. This is a lower amount compared to 2011, when 97% of respondents reported their children being in school.

Children Living in Foster Care or With Other Family Members

- Of the 2013 respondents who claimed to have children, 4.1% claimed their children (one or more) were in foster care.

4.6.3 Homeless Families With Children: Demographics

Figure 44: Individuals with Children by Ethnicity



N= 349

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 62.5% of the survey respondents with children were male.
- Of the homeless individuals with children, the largest percentage reported they were White/Caucasian (41.3%). Closely following were 37.0% who indicated they were Black/African American. This can be compared to 2011, when the largest percentage of homeless individuals with children indicated they were Black/African American (34%), followed by White/Caucasian (32%), and Hispanic/Latino (26%).

4.7 UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS CHILDREN & YOUTH

For the purpose of this report, HUD defines unaccompanied homeless children and youth as follows:

A person under the age of 18 and are living independently of a parent or legal guardian and are a household of one is an unaccompanied child. Unaccompanied homeless youth are defined as individuals who are within the ages of 18 and 24 years of age.

Unaccompanied children and youth who experience homelessness face far more challenges than their adult counterparts. Not only do they have more difficulty finding employment, they also have a harder time accessing services, shelter, and medical care.

Despite the fact that the unaccompanied children and youth homeless population faces the greatest challenges, data on this population is very limited on both a local and national level.²⁵ This is partly due to the fact this particular homeless subpopulation is difficult to locate and enumerate.

In attempt to overcome this challenge, Southern Nevada increased its effort to include as many unaccompanied homeless children and youth in its 2013 census and survey. To do so they scheduled their street count for the afternoon as opposed to early morning hours, as afternoon is optimal time of day to locate members of this homeless subpopulation.

For the purposes of this study, in order to be considered ‘unaccompanied’, respondents were to be living alone or with persons different from parents or family members.

4.7.1 Children and Youth: Demographics

- 9 survey respondents were unaccompanied homeless children (under 18).
- 54 survey respondents were unaccompanied homeless youth (18-24).
- The total unaccompanied homeless children and unaccompanied homeless youth represents 7.3% of survey respondents.
- In regards to survey respondents, 53.7% of the unaccompanied homeless children respondents and unaccompanied youth respondents were unsheltered.
- 33.3% of unaccompanied children and youth respondents identified themselves as female, 64.9% of these survey respondents identified as male, and 1.8% (1 survey respondent) identified as transgender.

- **Race/Ethnicity**
 - Children: 22.2% of homeless youth survey respondents identified themselves as White/Caucasian, 33.3% identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino, 44.4% identified themselves as Black/African American.
 - Youth: 28.4% of homeless children survey respondents identified themselves as White/Caucasian, 11.5% identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino, 38.5% identified themselves as Black/African American

4.7.2 Children & Youth – County of Residency

- 68.3% of unaccompanied children and youth reported living in Southern Nevada when they became homeless this most recent time.

4.7.3 Children & Youth – Occurrence and Length of Homelessness

- 44.3% of unaccompanied children and youth reported that this was the first time they had been homeless.
- 13.1% of unaccompanied children and youth reported that that it had been a year or more since they last lived in a permanent housing situation.

4.7.4 Children & Youth – Mental Health & Well-Being

- 21.3% of unaccompanied children and youth survey respondents reported experiencing depression, 43.5% reported having mental illness. (NOTE: These responses were not mutually exclusive).

4.7.5 Children & Youth – Homeless Youth With Children

- 12.3% of unaccompanied children and youth (9 persons) reported they had children.
 - Of these respondents, 44.4% reported that their children were living with them.

4.7.6 Children & Youth – Drug & Alcohol Abuse

- 53.7% of children and youth claim they are currently abusing drugs and/or alcohol.

5. HOMELESS SURVEY FINDINGS

HUD-DEFINED HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS

The following sections provide information regarding certain homeless subpopulations that are of particular interest to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). By identifying the specific characteristics of these subpopulations, CoCs and HUD can accurately measure progress within each subgroup as outlined in the government initiative *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*, which was implemented by the Obama Administration in 2010.²⁶

The following information is based upon data from both the 2013 Southern Nevada PIT Count and the data from the Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. It breaks the data into the HUD-defined homeless subpopulations and provides estimates that were calculated by applying the survey results to the PIT homeless count population. This process is termed *extrapolation* (for more information, see *Appendix VII Glossary and Definitions of Terms*).

5.1 SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS

The following tables contain information regarding the conditions pertaining to each subpopulation. They are divided into sheltered and unsheltered categories.

2013 Sheltered Homeless Definition

...Individuals and families living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal state, or local government programs for low-income individuals...this includes individuals residing in Safe Haven provider programs.¹¹

2013 Unsheltered Homeless Definition

...Individuals and families with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.¹¹

Figure 45: Homeless Subpopulation Definitions

Homeless Subpopulation	Definition
Chronically Homeless Individuals	An unaccompanied homeless adult individual (persons 18 years or older) with a disabling condition (see definition below) who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) separate occasions of homelessness in the past three (3) years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time. Persons under the age of 18 are not counted as chronically homeless. For purposes of the PIT, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT count should not be included in this subpopulation category.
Chronically Homeless Families/Persons in Chronically Homeless Families	A household with at least one adult member (persons 18 or older) who has a disabling condition (see definition below) and who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) separate occasions of homelessness in the past three (3) years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time. The subpopulation count should include all members of the household. For purposes of the PIT, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT count should not be included in this subpopulation category.
Veterans	This subpopulation category includes persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty
Veterans - Female	This subpopulation category includes females who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty
Severely Mentally Ill	This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons with mental health problems that are expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.
Chronic Substance Abuse	This category on the PIT includes persons with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both) that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.
Persons with HIV/AIDS	This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.
Victims of Domestic Violence	This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have been victims of domestic violence at any point in the past.

5.1.1 Homeless Subpopulation Estimates

The following tables break down the homeless count data into HUD-defined subpopulations. These data are based on both the homeless PIT count and data from the subsequent homeless survey.

As mentioned before, it is important to define *household*, *individual*, *family*, and a *household with only children*, as used for the purposes of this report. According to HUD, a *household* is defined as follows:¹⁶

“...occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.”

Therefore, for the purposes of this report, persons in a household without children will be referred to as **Individuals**; persons in households with at least one adult and one child (under 18) will be referred to as a **Family**; and persons in households composed of only children will be referred to as **Only Children**.¹⁰

Figure 46: Homeless Subpopulations Estimates – Sheltered & Unsheltered Yearly Comparisons: Part 1

Homeless Subpopulation	Sheltered Estimates				Unsheltered Estimates			
	2007	2009	2011	2013	2007	2009	2011	2013
Chronically Homeless Individuals*	174	117	113	218	1,309	2,094	1,466	476
Chronically Homeless Families*	NA	NA	3	0	NA	NA	3	0
Persons in Chronically Homeless Families*	NA	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA	0

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: This chart shows estimates calculated by applying the survey results to the point-in-time homeless count population.

* “Sheltered” chronically homeless subpopulations include those in emergency shelters and safe havens only.

Figure 47: Homeless Subpopulations Estimates – Sheltered & Unsheltered Yearly Comparisons: Part 2

Homeless Subpopulation	Sheltered Estimates				Unsheltered Estimates			
	2007	2009	2011	2013	2007	2009	2011	2013
Veterans	835	986	642	406	1,486	1,276	708	460
Veterans - Female	NA	NA	NA	25	NA	NA	NA	24
Severely Mentally Ill	888	1,636	815	629	1,363	1,738	1,766	1,182
Chronic Substance Abuse	697	1,225	258	178	2,473	2,472	1,624	491
Persons with HIV/AIDs	19	68	10	10	76	82	34	61
Victims of Domestic Violence	215	637	233	332	545	500	431	445

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: This chart shows estimates calculated by applying the survey results to the point-in-time homeless count population.

Figure 48: Homeless Subpopulations Estimates –Totals, Net Change & Percent Change: Part 1

Homeless Subpopulation	Sheltered & Unsheltered Total Amounts				Net Change 2011-2013	Percent Change 2011-2013
	2007	2009	2011	2013		
Chronically Homeless Individuals*	1,438	2,211	1,579	695	-884	-56.0%
Chronically Homeless Families*	NA	NA	6	0	-6	-100.0%
Persons in Chronically Homeless Families*	NA	NA	NA	0	NA	NA

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: This chart shows estimates calculated by applying the survey results to the point-in-time homeless count population.

* "Sheltered" chronically homeless subpopulations include those in emergency shelters and safe havens only.

Figure 49: Homeless Subpopulations Estimates –Totals, Net Change & Percent Change: Part 2

Homeless Subpopulation	Sheltered & Unsheltered Total Amounts				Net Change 2011-2013	Percent Change 2011-2013
	2007	2009	2011	2013		
Veterans Total	2,321	2,262	1,350	866	-484	-35.6%
Veterans - Female	NA	NA	NA	49	NA	NA
Severely Mentally Ill**	2,251	3,374	2,581	1,811	-770	-29.8%
Chronic Substance Abuse	3,170	3,652	1,882	669	-1,213	-64.5%
Persons with HIV/AIDs	95	150	44	71	27	61.4%
Victims of Domestic Violence	760	1,137	664	777	113	17.0%

Source:

Applied Survey Research(2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: This chart shows estimates calculated by applying the survey results to the point-in-time homeless count population.

** In 2011 & 2013, severely mentally ill data are estimates based on survey respondents who reported experiencing mental illness and/or severe depression. Per HUD's guidelines, these estimates exclude those who reported experiencing trauma. Severe depression includes those who reported that they were experiencing depression and that their depression prevents them from obtaining work or housing.

5.2 CHRONICALLY HOMELESS PERSONS

For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition for a chronically homeless individual is as follows:

...an unaccompanied homeless adult individual (person 18 years or older) with a disabling condition (see definition of disabling condition in Appendix VII) who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time.

The mortality rate for chronically homeless persons is 4 to 9 times that of the general populace. Homelessness impedes access to healthcare, making tasks such as taking medication, eating a healthy diet, and caring for injuries difficult. Due to their social isolation, many chronically homeless persons receive little, if any, medical attention.

The problem of chronic homelessness is interpersonal in nature, but also presents in the form of public cost. Research shows that the chronically homeless incur high expense through emergency room visits, incarceration, and run-ins with the law.²⁶

Between 2009 and 2011, chronic homelessness nationwide decreased by only 3 percent. However, between 2007 and 2011, it decreased by over 13 percent.⁴ And in 2012, chronic homelessness further declined by 19.3 percent (as compared to 2007). The 99,894 chronically homeless persons enumerated nationwide in 2012 now represent fewer than 6 percent of the total homeless population.² 2012 data is the most recent nationwide data to date, therefore no comparison to 2013 national data can be made.

Below is information pertaining to the state of chronically homeless individuals, chronically homeless families, and persons in chronically homeless families located in Southern Nevada during the time of the 2013 survey.

5.2.1 Chronically Homeless Subpopulations – Sheltered & Unsheltered

The information in the table below is based on both the data from the PIT Count and data from the homeless survey. The amounts were calculated by applying the survey results to the 2013 PIT homeless count population.

Figure 50: Chronically Homeless Subpopulations

	2007		2009		2011		2013		2011-2013	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Net Change	Percent Change
Chronically Homeless Individuals	1,483	100%	2,211	100%	1,579	100%	695	100%	-884	-56.0%
Unsheltered	1,309	88.3%	2,094	94.7%	1,466	92.8%	476	68.5%	-990	-67.5%
Sheltered-Emergency Shelter	174	11.7%	117	5.3%	110	7.0%	218	31.4%	108	98.2%
Sheltered-Safe Havens	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	0.2%	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Families	NA	NA	NA	NA	6	100%	0	0	NA	NA
Unsheltered	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	50.0%	0	0	NA	NA
Sheltered-Emergency Shelter	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	50.0%	0	0	NA	NA
Sheltered-Safe Haven	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	0.0%	0	0	NA	NA
Persons in Chronically Homeless Families	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA
Unsheltered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA
Sheltered-Emergency Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA
Sheltered-Safe Haven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

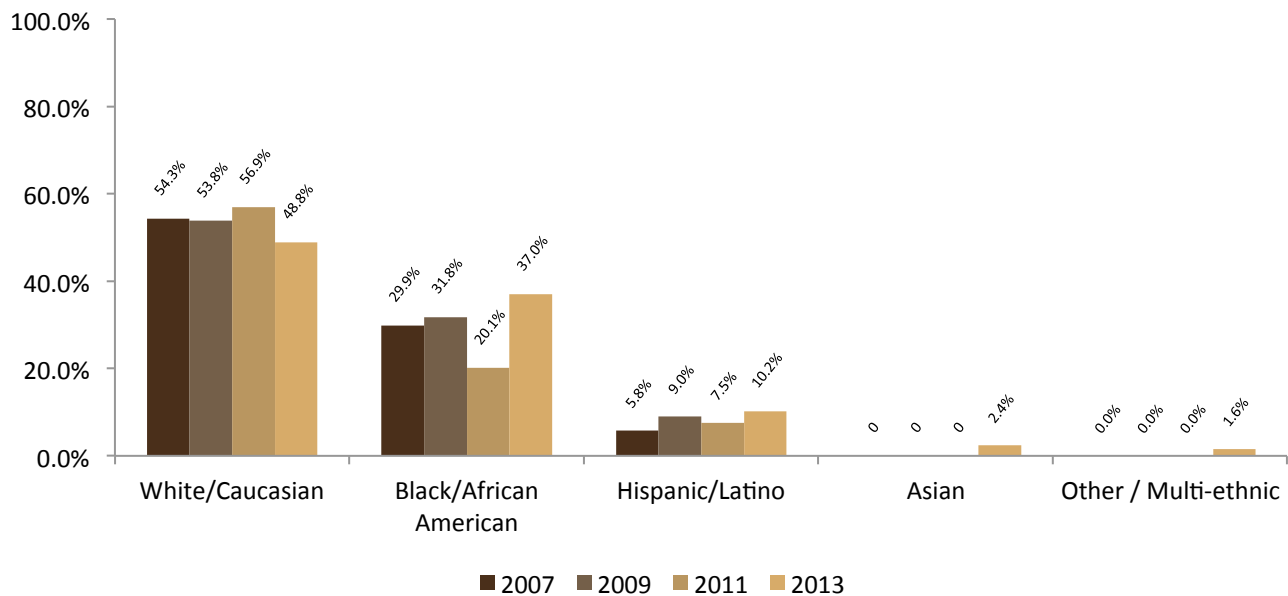
- Of the chronically homeless persons, 68.5% (476 persons) were unsheltered.
- Of the chronically homeless persons, 31.4% (218 persons) were sheltered in emergency shelters.
- 14 Homeless Veteran respondents met the criteria for chronically homeless. This amount represents 2.0% of the estimated chronically homeless population.

- Based on the survey results, of the 610 homeless persons in families that were enumerated in the 2013 PIT Count, none were in chronically homeless families. 2011 was the first year that characteristics of this particular subpopulation were documented; thus, there is no way to compare these numbers to 2007 and 2009.

Data indicates that on any given night in 2013, Southern Nevada has approximately 695 chronically homeless individuals. This represents a 56.0% decrease from the 1,579 of chronically homeless individuals in 2011. In general, when comparing with years prior to 2011, it seems that the amount of chronically homeless individuals in Southern Nevada is decreasing over time.

On any given night in 2013, it can be estimated that 9.4 percent of Southern Nevada's total point-in-time homeless population is composed of chronically homeless individuals. In contrast, in 2011 16.8 percent (107,148 persons) of all homeless persons nationwide were classified as chronically homeless in 2011.³

Figure 51: Chronically Homeless Population by Race/Ethnicity (Top 4 Ethnicities)



N: 2007=291; 2009=222; 2011=124; 2013= 116

Source:

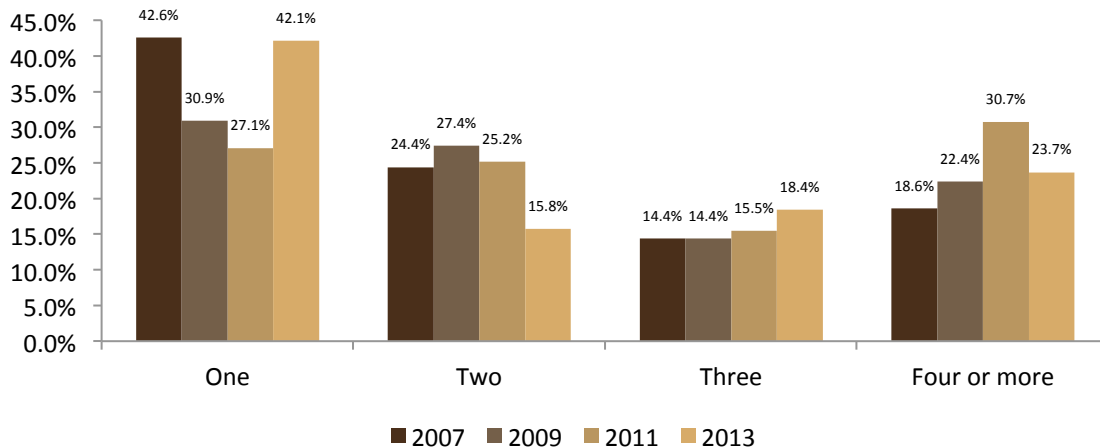
Applied Survey Research(2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 48.8% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless identified their racial/ethnic group as White/Caucasian. This is lower than responses for this category in 2011 (56.9%).
- 37.0% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless identified their racial/ethnic group as Black/African American. This is higher than responses for this category in 2011 (20.1%).
- 10.2% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless identified their racial/ethnic group as Hispanic/Latino. This is higher than responses for this category in 2011 (7.5%).
- 2.4% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless identified their racial/ethnic group as Asian.
- 1.6% of survey respondents identified as Other/Multi-Ethnic. No previous data is available for these categories.

Figure 52: Number of Disabling Conditions Among Chronically Homeless Respondents



N: 2007=291; 2009=223; 2011=124; 2013= 38

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Watsonville, CA.
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 42.1% of the chronically homeless respondents had one disabling condition. This is compared to 27.1% in 2011.
- 57.9% of the chronically homeless population reported two or more co-occurring disabling conditions. This is less than that of 2011 (71.4%).

5.2.2 Chronically Homeless Families

In families experiencing homelessness, the rates of health problems and exposure to violence are high. Compared to children with consistent living accommodations, children belonging to homeless families exhibit more emotional and behavioral problems.²⁷ Thus, quality data about this subpopulation is invaluable. However, gathering accurate information about homeless families is challenging. They tend to reside on private property, making them less visible and thus more difficult to count. For the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition for a chronically homeless family is as follows:

...A household with at least one adult member (persons 18 or older) who has a disabling condition (see definition below) and who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time.

Summary:

- There were no counted Chronically Homeless Families with Children in 2013.

5.3 HOMELESS VETERANS

More than 2.4 million American soldiers have served in Operation Iraqi Freedom/New Dawn and Enduring Freedom since September 11, 2001. Over 20 percent of these soldiers have returned with traumatic brain injury (TBI), and 10 to 18 percent have returned suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).²⁸ In addition, rates of sexual trauma, which intensifies the risk of PTSD, are high among female Veterans, who make up more than 11 percent of the Veteran population from these two wars.²⁹ PTSD is linked to increased risk of depression and substance abuse, both of which make employment difficult and often lead to social isolation.³⁰

Veterans, in general, are a particularly vulnerable population in regards to homelessness. This is partly due to their high rates of PTSD, sexual trauma, and TBI, all of which increase their risk of homelessness. In addition, approximately 50 percent of homeless Veterans suffer from serious mental illness, 50 percent have involvement with the legal system, and over 70 percent struggle with substance abuse.²⁶

To compound the problem, soldiers have been returning to face Veteran unemployment rates that range from 12 percent to over 30 percent, which further contributes to their risk of homelessness.³¹ According to HUD's 2011 Point-in-Time Count, Veterans represented 14 percent of the adult homeless

population, but only 10 percent of the US adult population; they are likely to be unsheltered and experience long-term chronic homelessness.²⁷

On a national level however, Veteran homelessness seems to be on the decline. On a single night in January 2012, 62,619 Veterans were homeless nationwide, accounting for 13 percent of all homeless adults (56 percent of whom were sheltered, and 44 percent of whom were unsheltered). This represents a nationwide decrease of 7.2 percent (4,876 persons) between 2011 and 2012. This number is even more encouraging when it is compared to 2009; between 2009 and 2012, Veteran homelessness decreased by 17.2% (12,990 persons) nationwide. This is among the most important and significant declines among homeless subpopulations in America.⁴

2011 was the first year the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) used the national HUD Point-in-Time Counts as their definitive count of homeless Veterans. In 2011, the VA recommended two questions to determine Veteran status:

- *“Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?”*
- *“Were you activated into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist?”*

Therefore, for the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition for Veteran is as follows:

...persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty

Below is information pertaining to homeless Veterans in Southern Nevada CoC in 2013:

- 13.02% of survey respondents indicated they had served in the United States Armed Forces.
- 3.37% of respondents indicated having been activated into active duty as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist in 2013.

The information in the table below is based on both data from the homeless PIT Count and data from the homeless survey. Some of the amounts were calculated by applying the survey results to the PIT homeless count population; these amounts are labeled accordingly. The homeless Veteran survey results were used to project approximately how many homeless Veterans there are in Southern Nevada at any given point in time.

Figure 53: Homeless Veteran Subpopulation

	2007		2009		2011		2013		2011-2013	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Net Change	Percent Change
Unsheltered	1,486	64.0%	1,276	56.4%	708	52.4%	460	49.0%	-248	-35.0%
Sheltered	835	36.0%	986	43.6%	642	47.6%	406	51.0%	-236	-36.8%
Total	2,321	100.0%	2,262	100.0%	1,350	100.0%	866	100%	-484	-35.6%

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

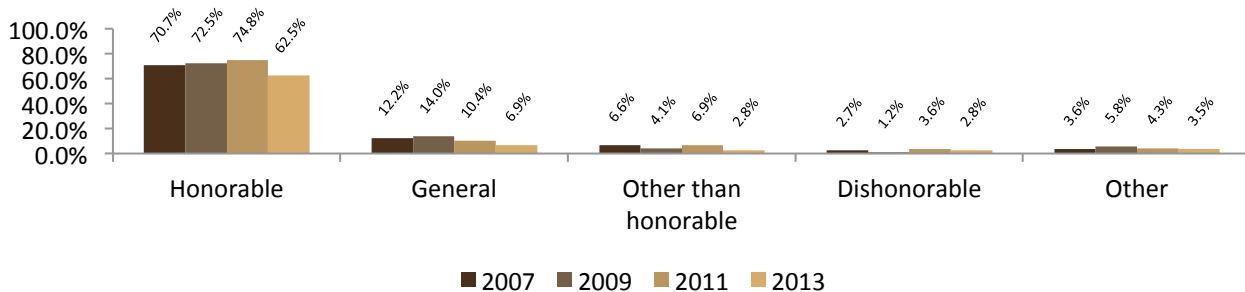
Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Note: The homeless Veteran survey results were used to project approximately how many homeless Veterans there are in Southern Nevada at a given point in time.

Summary:

- By using the homeless Veteran survey results, it can be estimated that on any given night, the homeless Veteran population in Southern Nevada is composed of approximately 866 persons. This represents 11.8% of the total 2013 Point-in-Time homeless population, and a 35.6% decrease from the amount of homeless Veterans in 2011. (These amounts were calculated by applying the Veteran survey results to the Point-in-Time homeless count population)
- Of the 141 Veteran survey respondents, an overwhelming majority (70.8 %) indicated they are of male gender, with only 8 Veteran respondents (5.7%) indicating they are of female gender.

Figure 54: Discharge Status Of Veteran Respondents



N: 2007=335; 2009=171; 2011=79; 2013=114

Source:

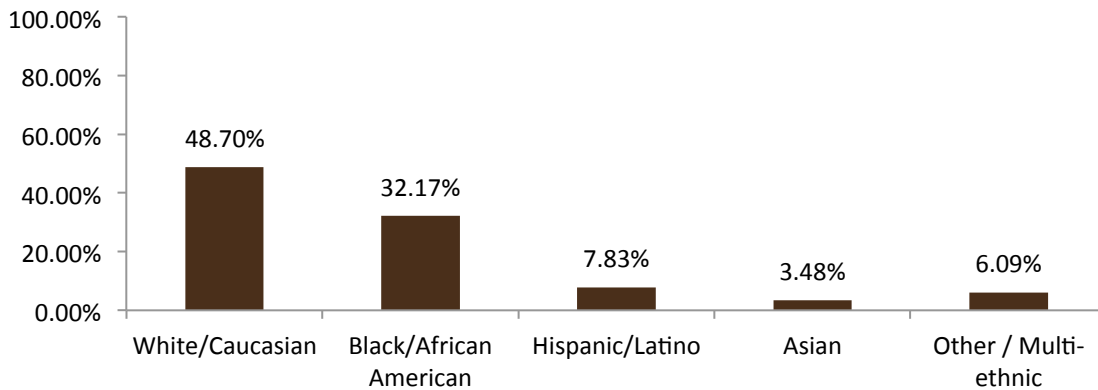
Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- In regards to discharge status of Veteran respondents, 62.5% reported Honorable Discharge.

Figure 55: Homeless Veteran Population By Ethnicity, 2013



N = 114

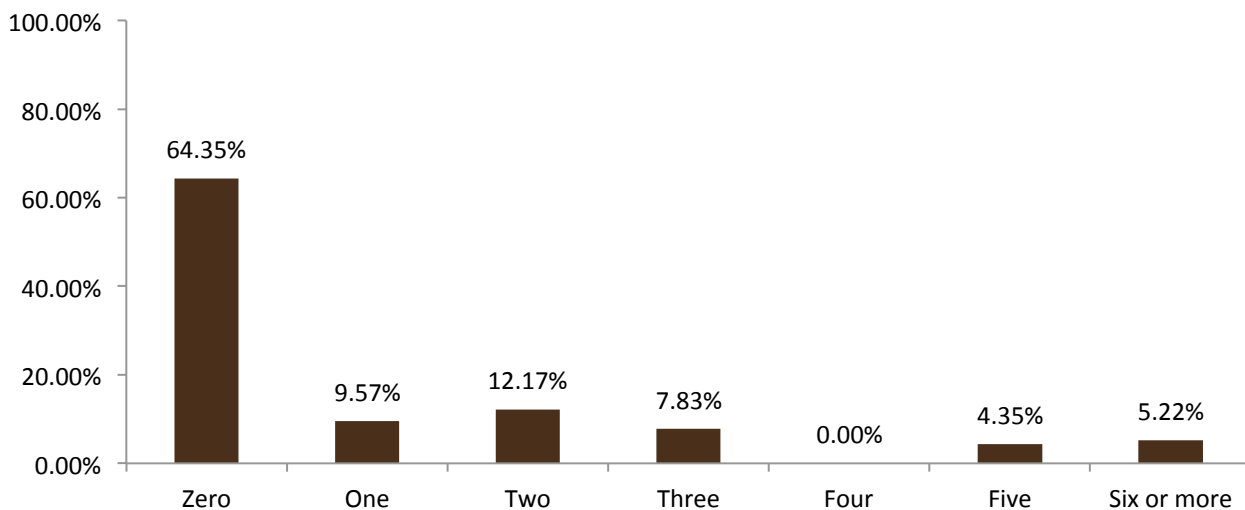
Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- The largest percentage of homeless Veterans reported they are White/Caucasian (48.7%), followed by Black/African American (32.2 %), Hispanic/Latino (7.8%), and Other/Multi Ethnic (6.1%).
- The least amount of homeless Veterans (3.5%) reported they were Asian.

Figure 56: Number Of Disabling Conditions Among Homeless Veteran Respondents, 2013



N=115

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- The vast majority (64.4%) of homeless Veterans reported that they had no disabling conditions.
- 12.2 % of the homeless Veteran population reported having two disabling conditions, which is just over the 9.6% who reported having one disabling condition.
- 17.4% of homeless Veteran respondents reported having three or more disabling conditions.

5.4 PERSONS WITH HIV OR AIDS

For the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition of persons with HIV or AIDS is as follows:

... persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

Summary:

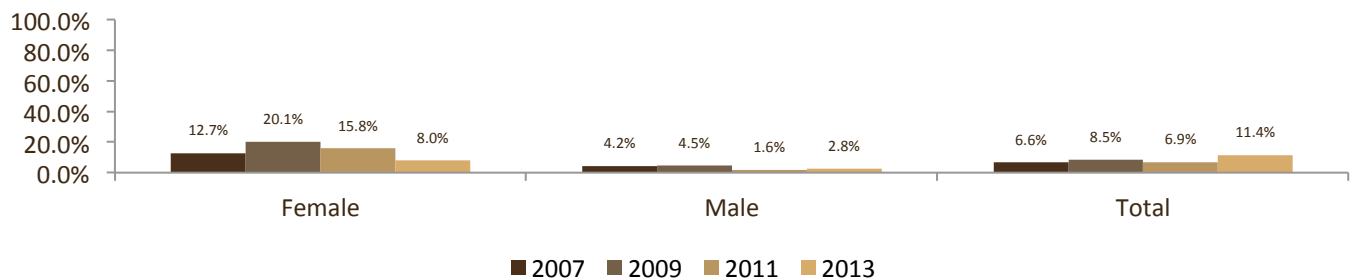
- 0.7% of the respondents were experiencing HIV or AIDS related illnesses. This amount is a slight increase (0.2%) from the amount reported in 2011.

5.5 VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

For the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition of victim of domestic/partner violence is as follows:

... persons who have been victims of domestic violence at any point in the past.

Figure 57: Respondents Who Were Experiencing Domestic/Partner Violence or Abuse (By Gender)



N: 2007= 1,291; 2009= 600; 2011= 547; 2013= 98

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 10.8% of survey respondents reported experiencing domestic violence or abuse.
- Of these respondents, 8.0% were female.
- Of these respondents, 2.8% were male.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of female respondents experiencing domestic violence or abuse decreased from 15.8% to 8.0%. In contrast, the amount of male respondents experiencing domestic violence or abuse increased from 1.6% to 2.8% during this period.
- 32.7% of respondents who cited experiences with domestic violence or abuse reported that it prevented them from gaining employment or housing.

5.6 SEVERELY MENTALLY ILL

Individuals suffering from severe mental illness (SMI) have serious and chronic mental disorders that impair their ability to provide self-care, develop interpersonal relationships, or obtain/sustain employment and housing. For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition of severe mental illness is as follows:

...persons with mental health problems that are expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

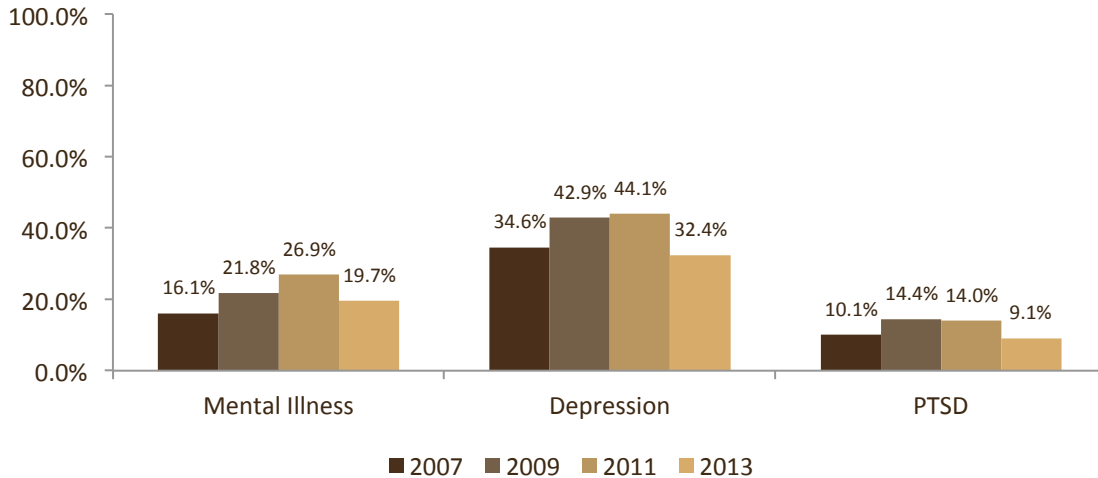
The severely mentally ill data presented below are estimates based on survey respondents who reported experiencing mental illness and/or severe depression. Per HUD's guidelines, these estimates exclude those who reported experiencing trauma. Severe depression includes those who reported that they were experiencing depression, and that their depression prevents them from getting work or housing.

Research consistently indicates that homelessness for these individuals often occurs directly following hospital (psychiatric) discharge.³² Research also indicates that a disproportionate amount of the general homeless population suffers from some form of mental illness.³³

The 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey included questions inquiring about the mental health status. This included questions about depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). PTSD is a disorder that can develop after one experiences a traumatic event. Among other debilitating symptoms, PTSD is characterized by intense anxiety, panic attacks, depression, flashbacks/re-experiencing, and nightmares of the traumatic event. According to the VA definition of PTSD, a traumatic event is any event that threatens one's own life or the life of someone close to them. This

can include military combat, natural disasters, terrorist incidents, serious accidents, or physical/sexual assault in childhood or adulthood.³⁴

Figure 58: Percentage Of Respondents Who Were Currently Experiencing Mental Illness, Depression, and PTSD



Mental Illness_ N: 2007= 1,304 ; 2009= 882; 2011= 488; 2013= 860]; Depression_N: 2007= 1,308; 2009= 879; 2011= 509; 2013= 860]; PTSD_ N: 2007= 1,292; 2009= 864; 2011= 488; 2013= 860]

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2007, 2009, 2011) 2007, 2009, & 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

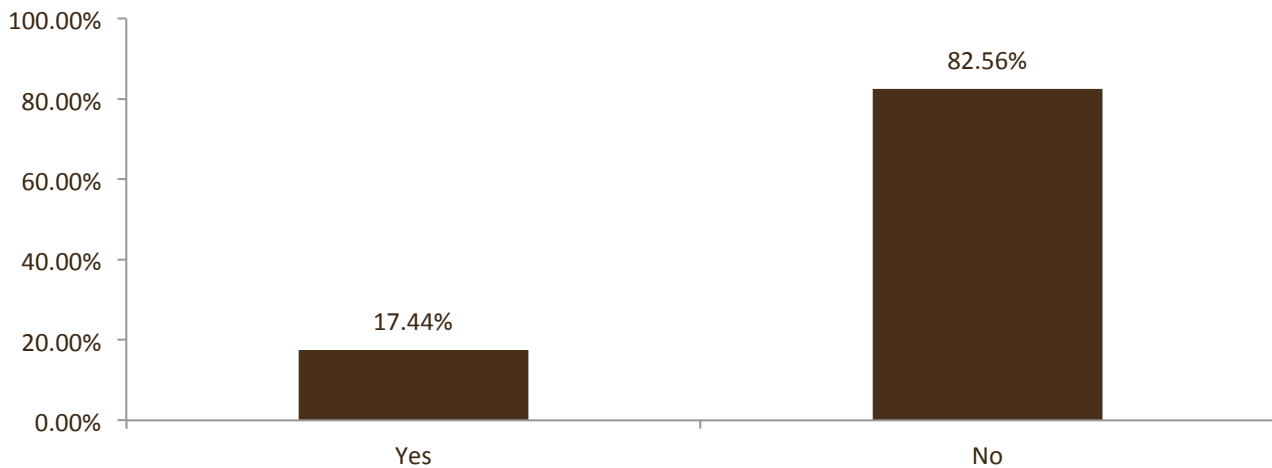
- Overall, 37.7% survey respondents reported experiencing mental illness, depression, or PTSD, or any possible variation thereof.
- In 2013, 38.8% of the survey respondents claimed they were *not* suffering from any type of mental illness.
- In 2013, 19.7% of the survey respondents claimed they were suffering from mental illness, 32.4% claimed they were suffering from depression, and 9.1% claimed they were suffering from PTSD.
- Between 2011 and 2013, the amount of respondents who did report that they were suffering from mental illness decreased from 26.9% to 19.7%. This is a 7.2% decrease.
- Of the respondents that claimed mental illness, 59.2% reported that it prevented or limited their capacity to obtain employment or housing.

5.7 CHRONIC SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Figure 59: Percentage of Respondents Who Were Currently Experiencing Alcohol or Drug Abuse, 2013

For the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition of chronic substance abuse is as follows:

...persons with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both) that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.



N: 2011= 495; 2013= 860

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- In 2011, 20.9% of the survey respondents reported experiencing substance abuse (alcohol or drugs) at the time of the survey, marking substance abuse as the second highest cited cause of homelessness in Southern Nevada. In contrast, 17.44% of 2013 respondents cited problems with alcohol/drug abuse. This represents a 3.46% decrease compared to 2011.

5.7.1 Co-Occurring Disorders

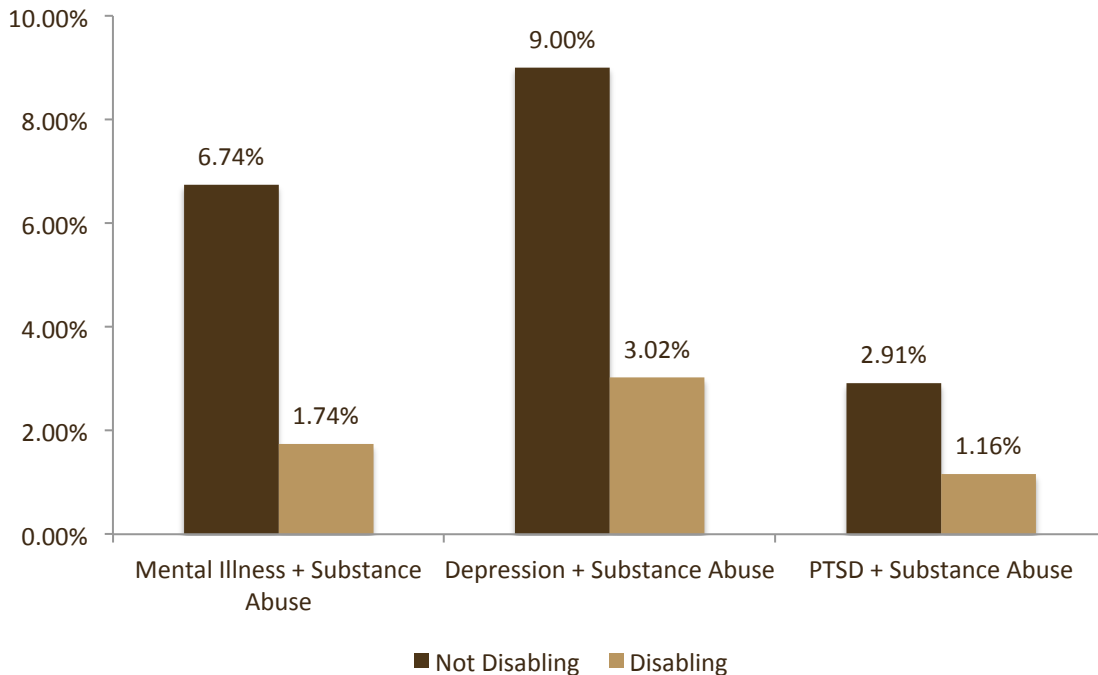
Chronic substance abuse among the homeless population is misunderstood at both local and national levels. It is often carelessly attributed to personality and/or character flaws. In reality, however, mental illness plays a significant role in struggles with chronic substance abuse. Thus, the possibility of a co-

occurring disorder is often overlooked in many cases of chronic substance abuse, especially among the homeless population.

The Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) agree that Individuals diagnosed with mental illness are twice as likely to have co-occurring problems with substance abuse.³⁵ In 2010, 54.3% of those persons enrolled in Permanent Supportive Housing programs reported problems with both mental illness and substance abuse. However, only 24% of this population reported mental illness alone, and only 11.9% reported substance abuse alone.³⁶ This disparity highlights the prevalence of the co-occurrence of mental illness and substance abuse in the homeless population.

Although individuals with co-occurring disorders do not constitute a HUD-defined subpopulation in their own right, this population is of great concern and interest to both policy-makers and the general public. No previous data exists for this population in regards to Southern Nevada. 2013, however, marks the beginning of data-collection for this population. Below is 2013 data depicting the state of co-occurring disorders in Southern Nevada.

Figure 60: 2013 Respondents Reporting Co-Occurring Substance Abuse with Mental Illness, Depression, or PTSD



N = 860

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013), 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: For the purposes of this figure, 'Disabling' is defined as a condition that prevents the respondent from getting work or housing

Summary:

- 6.74% of survey respondents reported suffering from co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse; 1.74% of survey respondents reported that their co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse prevented them from obtaining work or housing
- 9.00% of survey respondents reported suffering from co-occurring depression and substance abuse; 3.02% of survey respondents reported that their co-occurring depression and substance abuse prevented them from obtaining work or housing.
- 2.91% of survey respondents reported suffering from co-occurring PTSD and substance abuse; 1.16% of survey respondents reported that their co-occurring PTSD and substance abuse prevented them from obtaining work or housing.

6. CONCLUSION

The information collected in the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report is of both local and nationwide importance. On a local level, this report will offer providers and agencies the information they need to apply for the necessary funding to alter and improve existing services. In general, this information will enhance the homeless services available to those in need within the Southern Nevada region. It also raises community awareness regarding the scope and characteristics of homelessness in Southern Nevada.

On a national level, the data provided in this report will be merged with the confluence of other data provided by communities across the nation. This information will help to build the next Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), which is to be presented to Congress to assist policy-makers in their funding decisions. The AHAR is used to provide nationwide estimates of homelessness, including information about the demographic characteristics of homeless persons, service-use patterns, and the capacity to house homeless persons. Therefore, important decisions will be based upon the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report, and other reports like it.

The Southern Nevada Point-in-Time (PIT) Count took place on January 23 and 24, 2013. The results of any Point-in-Time Count, including that of Southern Nevada, must be regarded in a conservative manner, as they may not represent the true number of homeless individuals and families. Even the most comprehensive methodology cannot account for those homeless individuals who remain hidden or not visible to enumeration teams (e.g. women and children). Despite these challenges, the 2013 PIT Count was able to identify 7,355 homeless persons in Southern Nevada. 39.7% of those enumerated were sheltered, while 60.3% were unsheltered.

Between January 2011 and January 2012, homelessness nationwide declined by 1 percent, and the amount of unsheltered homeless persons remained the same.⁴ At the time of this report, the national homeless data for 2013 has not been published. Regarding Southern Nevada, the amount of homeless persons enumerated in the 2013 PIT Count represents a 22.0% (2,077 persons) decrease from the 2011 Southern Nevada PIT Count.

“... the amount of homeless persons enumerated in the 2013 Point-in-Time Count represents a **22.0% (2,077 persons)** decrease in the amount of homeless persons enumerated in the Southern Nevada Point-in-Time Count conducted in 2011.”

Between 2007 and 2011, every PIT Count and homeless survey conducted in Southern Nevada has followed the same methodology. This PIT count encountered unexpected challenges to conduct a full canvassing of Southern Nevada. However, with the 94% coverage and utilizing the HUD approved

extrapolation of like census tract data, HUD considers the 2013 to hold the validity and reliability of a full canvassing. Therefore, any comparisons made between the data collected in 2007, 2009, 2011, and now 2013 can be viewed as valid and reliable.

Homelessness is an interpersonal issue, with varied catalysts. Likewise, the contributing factors that reduce and successfully address the issue is multi-faceted with many variables such as; employment rates, access to physical and mental health care, housing assistance programs and community planning/growth. The full list of contributing factors is explored in the Help Hope Home Plan to End Homelessness Implementation Plan 2013 5 year update.

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APPENDIX I: STREET CENSUS INSTRUMENT



HelpHopeHome
Helping The Homeless in Southern Nevada



2013 Clark County Homeless Census

Street County Tally Sheet

Map #:

City:

Team Member 1:	Deployment Center:	Date:
Team Member 2:	Deployment Center Captain:	
Team Member 3:	Deployment Center Phone #:	

INDIVIDUALS			
	Under 18 Age	18-24 Age	25+ Age
Male			
Female			
Undetermined Gender			

HOUSEHOLDS (2+ Family / Household Members)									
	Male			Female			Undetermined Gender		
	< 18	18-24	25+	< 18	18-24	25+	< 18	18-24	25+
Household Unit #1									
Household Unit #2									
Household Unit #3									
Household Unit #4									
Household Unit #5									

Note: If more than 5 households, use back of tally sheet.

USE SECTION BELOW WHEN # OF PERSONS NOT VISIBLE

VEHICLES, BUILDINGS, & PARKS	Tally
# of CARS with occupants	
# of VANS with occupants	
# of RVs with occupants	
# of Abandoned/Foreclosed BUILDINGS with occupants	
# of people in PARKS reported by Park Ranger	

ENCAMPMENTS with Occupants	# of tents or structures
Encampment #1	
Encampment #2	
Encampment #3	
Encampment #4	
Encampment #5	

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	HOUSEHOLDS								
	Male			Female			Undetermined Gender		
	< 18	18-24	25+	< 18	18-24	25+	< 18	18-24	25+
Household Unit #6									
Household Unit #7									
Household Unit #8									
Household Unit #9									
Household Unit #10									
Household Unit #11									
Household Unit #12									
Household Unit #13									
Household Unit #14									
Household Unit #15									
Household Unit #16									
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Household Unit #26									
Household Unit #27									
Household Unit #28									
Household Unit #29									
Household Unit #30									

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APPENDIX II: HOMELESS SURVEY INSTRUMENT

6650318807

2013 CLARK COUNTY HOMELESS SURVEY

(Office use)

REFUSALS _____

Interviewer's (Your) Name: _____

Neighborhood or city of interview: _____

Respondent's Full Name: _____

Respondent's Signature: _____

INTERVIEW DATE: _____

INTERVIEWER: Read question & answers to the respondent.

SHADE CIRCLES LIKE THIS → ●

NOT LIKE THIS → ⊗

1. What is your birth date?

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

2. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with most? (Shade only 1)

☐ White/Caucasian ☐ American Indian/Alaskan Native

☐ Black/African American ☐ Asian

☐ Hispanic/Latino ☐ Pacific Islander

☐ Other/Multi-ethnic

3. How do you identify yourself?

☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Transgender

Are you pregnant?

☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Decline to state

4b. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Decline to state

4c. What is your discharge status?

☐ Honorable ☐ Other than Honorable ☐ Other

☐ General ☐ Dishonorable ☐ N/A

4d. In which war theater did you serve? (Shade all that apply)

☐ World War II ☐ Gulf War I ☐ Other

☐ Korea ☐ Gulf War II ☐ None

☐ Vietnam ☐ Afghanistan ☐ N/A

5. Do you live alone?

☐ Yes (Skip to question 6) ☐ No

5a. Do you live with: (Shade all that apply)

☐ Spouse or significant other ☐ Other family member(s)

☐ Child/children ☐ Friend(s)

☐ Parent or legal guardian ☐ Other _____

☐ Street family

6. Do you have any children (17 or under)?

☐ Yes ☐ No (Skip to question 7)

6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6b. Are your children: (Shade all that apply)

	1	2	3	4+
18 years or over	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
0-5 years old	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6-12 years old	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13-17 years old	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6c. Are your children ages 5-17 in school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6d. Do you have any children in foster care?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6e. For persons in households with at least one adult and one child:

	1	2	3	4+
How many children do you have under 18	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How many adults aged 18-24	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How many adults over age 24	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6f. Persons in household without children:

	1	2	3	4
How many children do you have under 18	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How many adults aged 18-24	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. Is this the first time you have been homeless?

☐ Yes (Skip to question 8) ☐ No

7a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)

☐ One time ☐ 3 times ☐ 5 times ☐ More than 6 times

☐ 2 times ☐ 4 times ☐ 6 times

7b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)

☐ One time ☐ 3 times ☐ 5 times ☐ More than 6 times

☐ 2 times ☐ 4 times ☐ 6 times

8. How long have you been homeless this present time? (Shade only 1)

☐ 7 days or less ☐ 1-3 months ☐ 7-11 months

☐ 8-30 days ☐ 3-6 months ☐ 1 year ☐ More than 1 year

8a. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation? (Shade only 1)

☐ 7 days or less ☐ 4 months ☐ 8 months ☐ 12 months

☐ 8-30 days ☐ 5 months ☐ 9 months ☐ 1-2 years

☐ 2 months ☐ 6 months ☐ 10 months ☐ 2-3 years

☐ 3 months ☐ 7 months ☐ 11 months ☐ More than 3 years

9. Where do you usually stay at night, since you have been homeless? (Shade only 1)

☐ Outdoors/streets/parks

☐ Uncovered Garage/attic/basement

☐ Backyard or storage structure

☐ Motel/hotel

☐ Automobile

☐ Van

☐ Camper/RV

☐ Abandoned building

How many people, including yourself, usually stay here?

☐ A place in a house not normally used for sleeping (kitchen, living room, etc.)

☐ Emergency Shelter

☐ Public Facilities

☐ Transitional Housing

☐ Other Shelter

☐ Other _____

☐ Encampment

About how many people sleep in each tent, tarp or structure?

10. Immediately before you became homeless this last time, were you: (Shade only 1)

☐ Living in a home owned by you or your partner ☐ In jail or prison

☐ Renting a home or apartment ☐ In a hospital

☐ Staying with friends ☐ In a mental health facility

☐ Living with relatives ☐ In a substance abuse treatment program

☐ Living in subsidized housing ☐ In foster care

☐ Other

11. Where were you living right before you most recently became homeless (Shade only 1)

☐ Clark County ☐ Out of State

☐ Other area in Nevada, outside of Clark County

12. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing? (Shade all that apply)

☐ Can't afford rent ☐ Bad credit

☐ No job / no income ☐ Eviction record

☐ No money for moving costs ☐ Criminal record

☐ No housing available ☐ In jail or prison

☐ No transportation ☐ Other _____

13. What do you think are the top three events or conditions that led to your homelessness? (Shade up to 3)

☐ Lost Job ☐ Family/domestic violence

☐ Landlord sold/stopped renting ☐ Gambling problem

☐ Landlord raised rent ☐ Got too old for foster care

☐ Alcohol or drug use ☐ Divorced or separated

☐ Incarceration ☐ Natural disaster/fire/flood

☐ Illness or medical problem ☐ For being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender

☐ Mental health issues ☐ Other _____

☐ Argument/family or friend asked you to leave ☐ Don't know / decline to state

☐ Hospitalization/treatment program

☐ Lost home I owned through foreclosure

☐ Lost home I rented due to landlord's foreclosure

☐ Did not receive housing assistance when I left jail/prison

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(Office use)

14. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> Emergency Shelter	<input type="radio"/> Shelter day services
<input type="radio"/> Transitional Housing	<input type="radio"/> Legal assistance
<input type="radio"/> Free meals	<input type="radio"/> Health services
<input type="radio"/> Food Pantry	<input type="radio"/> Mental health services
<input type="radio"/> Bus passes	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
<input type="radio"/> Job training	<input type="radio"/> Not using any services
<input type="radio"/> Alcohol / Drug counseling	

15. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance? (Shade all that apply)

☐ Food Stamps

☐ Service-connected VA Disability Compensation

☐ Not service-connected VA Disability Pension

☐ Other veteran's benefits

☐ Social Security

☐ SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI

☐ TANF

☐ WIC

☐ Clark County Social Service financial assistance

☐ Other governmental assistance (State disability benefits, workers compensation, unemployment, etc)

(If yes to any of these, go to 16)

☐ I am not currently receiving any of these (Continue with question 15a)

16. What is your total monthly income from all Government benefits? (County, State, Federal monies) (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Zero	<input type="radio"/> \$301 - \$400	<input type="radio"/> \$701 - \$800
<input type="radio"/> \$1 - \$100	<input type="radio"/> \$401 - \$500	<input type="radio"/> \$801 - \$900
<input type="radio"/> \$101 - \$200	<input type="radio"/> \$501 - \$600	<input type="radio"/> \$901 - \$1,000
<input type="radio"/> \$201 - \$300	<input type="radio"/> \$601 - \$700	<input type="radio"/> Over \$1,000

17. What is your current employment status? (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Unemployed	<input type="radio"/> Employed full-time
<input type="radio"/> Retired	<input type="radio"/> Employed part-time
<input type="radio"/> Student	<input type="radio"/> Self-employed (Skip to question 18)
<input type="radio"/> Homemaker	<input type="radio"/> Seasonal Worker

17a. What is keeping you from getting employment? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> Need education	<input type="radio"/> No permanent address
<input type="radio"/> Need training	<input type="radio"/> No transportation
<input type="radio"/> Need clothing	<input type="radio"/> No tools for trade
<input type="radio"/> No shower facilities	<input type="radio"/> No work permit (No SS #)
<input type="radio"/> No phone	<input type="radio"/> No photo identification
<input type="radio"/> Health problems	<input type="radio"/> Don't want to work
<input type="radio"/> Disabled	<input type="radio"/> No jobs
<input type="radio"/> Criminal record	<input type="radio"/> Retired
<input type="radio"/> Alcohol / drug issue	<input type="radio"/> Spouse/partner doesn't want me to work
<input type="radio"/> No child care	<input type="radio"/> Other _____

18. What are your other sources of income? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> Family / Friends	<input type="radio"/> Selling other found items
<input type="radio"/> Pension	<input type="radio"/> Selling blood / plasma
<input type="radio"/> Child support	<input type="radio"/> Gambling
<input type="radio"/> Recycling	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
<input type="radio"/> Sex work	

19. What is your total monthly income from all non-Government sources? (Job, panhandling, recycling, etc) (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Zero	<input type="radio"/> \$301 - \$400	<input type="radio"/> \$701 - \$800
<input type="radio"/> \$1 - \$100	<input type="radio"/> \$401 - \$500	<input type="radio"/> \$801 - \$900
<input type="radio"/> \$101 - \$200	<input type="radio"/> \$501 - \$600	<input type="radio"/> \$901 - \$1,000
<input type="radio"/> \$201 - \$300	<input type="radio"/> \$601 - \$700	<input type="radio"/> Over \$1,000

20. Where do you usually get medical care? (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Hospital emergency room	<input type="radio"/> Private doctor
<input type="radio"/> Urgent care clinic	<input type="radio"/> Friend / family
<input type="radio"/> Public health clinic	<input type="radio"/> Don't ever go
<input type="radio"/> Veteran affairs clinic	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
<input type="radio"/> Free clinic / community	

21. Since you became homeless this last time, have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?

☐ Yes ☐ No

21. How many times in the last 3 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?

_____ times

22. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?

_____ times

23. How many times in the last 12 months have you been hospitalized as an inpatient?

_____ times

24. How many nights in the last 12 months have you spent in jail or prison, if any?

_____ nights

25. How many separate terms have you served in jail/prison in the last 12 months?

☐ Zero (Skip to question 26)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6+ (Ask 25a and 26b)

25a. How long were you in jail/prison in the last 12 months?

_____ months

25b. Did you become homeless immediately after you were released from jail/prison?

☐ Yes ☐ No

26. Are you currently experiencing any of the following:

	Yes	No	26aa. Does it prevent you from getting work or housing?
26a. Physical Disability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26b. Mental illness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26c. Depression	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26d. Alcohol/drug abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26e. Domestic violence/abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26f. Chronic health problem	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26g. AIDS/HIV related illness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26h. Tuberculosis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26i. Hepatitis C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26j. PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26k. Developmental Disability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26l. Emphysema	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26m. Diabetes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26n. Asthma	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26o. Cancer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26p. Kidney disease/end stage renal disease or dialysis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26q. History of hypothermia, frostbite, or immersion foot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26r. Liver sease, cirrhosis, or end-stage liver disease	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
26s. Heart disease, arrhythmia, or irregular heartbeat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

27. Have you ever abused drugs/alcohol, or been told you do? ☐ Yes ☐ No

28. Have you ever consumed alcohol everyday for the past month? ☐ Yes ☐ No

29. Have you ever used injection drugs or shots? ☐ Yes ☐ No

30. Have you ever been treated for drug or alcohol abuse? ☐ Yes ☐ No

31. Are you currently or have you ever received treatment for mental health issues? ☐ Yes ☐ No

32. Were you ever taken to the hospital against your will for mental health reasons? ☐ Yes ☐ No

DO NOT ASK: Surveyor, do you observe signs or symptoms of:

33. Serious physical health conditions	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
34. Alcohol or drug abuse	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
35. Severe persistent mental illness	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

36. Do you have a pet?

☐ No

Yes, Number: ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6+

What Kind: ☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Reptile ☐ Other _____

APPENDIX III: OVERALL HOMELESS SURVEY RESULTS (WEIGHTED)

1. Age

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 13 years	1	0.1%
13-17 years	21	2.6%
18-21 years	39	4.7%
22-30 years	76	9.2%
31-40 years	125	15.2%
41-50 years	217	26.4%
51-60 years	271	33.0%
More than 60 years	72	8.8%
Total	822	100.0

2. Which racial/ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White/Caucasian	365	43.3%
Black/African American	305	36.1%
Hispanic/Latino	96	11.4%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	10	1.2%
Asian	22	2.6%
Pacific Islander	7	0.8%
Other / Multi-ethnic	39	4.6%
Total	844	100.0%

3. How do you identify yourself?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Female	203	25.8%
Male	581	73.8%
Transgender	3	0.4%
Total	787	100.0%

3a. Are you pregnant?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8	4.3%
No	178	95.7%
Total	186	100.0%

4. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	112	14.1%
No	679	85.4%
Don't Know	1	0.1%
Decline to state	3	0.4%
Total	795	100.0%

4b. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	29	4.0%
No	696	95.1%
Don't Know	3	0.4%
Decline to state	4	0.5%
Total	732	100.0%

4c. What is your discharge status?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Honorable	90	62.5%
General	10	6.9%
Other than honorable	4	2.8%
Dishonorable	4	2.8%
Other	5	3.5%
N/A	31	21.5%
Total	144	100.0%

4d. In which war theater did you serve?

Response	Frequency	Percent
World War II	0	0.0%
Korea	4	2.8%
Vietnam	31	21.5%
Gulf War I	10	6.9%
Gulf War II	6	4.2%
Afghanistan	2	1.4%
Other	16	11.1%
None	43	29.9%
Not Applicable	35	24.3%

Multiple response question with 144 respondents offering 147 responses.

5. Do you live alone (by yourself)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	482	61.0%
No	308	39.0%
Total	790	100.0%

5a. Do you live with:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Spouse or significant other	38	13.7%
Child/children	50	18.1%
Parent or legal guardian	15	5.4%
Street family	34	12.3%
Other family member(s)	21	7.6%
Friend(s)	32	11.6%
Other	110	39.7%

Multiple response question with 277 respondents offering 300 responses.

6. Do you have any children?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	351	92.6%
No	28	7.4%
Total	379	100.0%

6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	51	15.6%
No	276	84.4%
Total	327	100.0%

6b. Are your children:

Response	Frequency	Percent
18 years or older	208	66.9%
0-5 years old	69	22.2%
6-12 years old	68	21.9%
13-17 years old	55	17.7%

Multiple response question with 311 respondents offering 400 responses

6ba. How many children do you have that are 18 years or older?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	72	34.6%
2	72	34.6%
3	31	14.9%
4+	33	15.9%
Total	208	100.0%

6bb. How many children do you have that are 0-5 years old?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	46	66.7%
2	17	24.6%
3	5	7.2%
4+	1	1.4%
Total	69	100.0%

6bc. How many children do you have that are 6-12 years old?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	44	64.7%
2	18	26.5%
3	3	4.4%
4+	3	4.4%
Total	68	100.0%

6bd. How many children do you have that are 13-17 years old?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	35	63.6%
2	15	27.3%
3	3	5.5%
4+	2	3.6%
Total	55	100.0%

6c. Are your children ages 5 – 17 in school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	87	71.9%
No	34	28.1%
Total	121	100.0%

6d. Do you have any children in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	13	4.1%
No	307	95.9%
Total	320	100.0%

6ea. [Families] How many children do you have under 18?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	37	51.4%
2	19	26.4%
3	9	12.5%
4+	7	9.7%
Total	72	100.0%

6eb. [Families] How many adults aged 18-24?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	16	55.2%
2	10	34.5%
3	1	3.4%
4+	2	6.9%
Total	29	100.0%

6ec. [Families] How many adults over age 24?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	32	64.0%
2	11	22.0%
3	2	4.0%
4+	5	10.0%
Total	50	100.0%

6fa. [Adults Only Households] How many adults ages 18-24?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	18	50.0%
2	11	30.5%
3	1	2.8%
4+	6	16.7%
Total	36	100.0%

6fb. [Adults Only Households] How many adults over age 24?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	61	61.6%
2	20	20.2%
3	5	5.1%
4+	13	13.1%
Total	99	100.0%

7. Is this the first time you have been homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	406	49.4%
No	416	50.6%
Total	822	100.0%

7a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	371	60.6%
2 times	100	16.3%
3 times	44	7.2%
4 times	21	3.4%
5 times	10	1.6%
6 times	9	1.5%
More than 6 times	57	9.3%
Total	612	100.0%

7b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	321	51.9%
2 times	111	17.9%
3 times	51	8.2%
4 times	26	4.2%
5 times	19	3.1%
6 times	13	2.1%
More than 6 times	78	12.6%
Total	619	100.0%

8. How long have you been homeless this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	79	9.8%
8-30 days	63	7.8%
1-3 months	167	20.7%
4-6 months	127	15.8%
7-11 months	96	11.9%
1 year	41	5.1%
More than 1 year	233	28.9%
Total	806	100.0%

8a. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent supportive housing situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	74	9.1%
8-30 days	90	11.1%
2 months	51	6.3%
3 months	61	7.5%
4 months	49	6.1%
5 months	22	2.7%
6 months	39	4.8%
7 months	30	3.7%
8 months	25	3.1%
9 months	19	2.3%
10 months	7	0.9%
11 months	10	1.2%
12 months	37	4.6%
1-2 years	101	12.5%
2-3 years	55	6.8%
More than 3 years	140	17.3%
Total	810	100.0%

9. Where do you usually stay at night, since you have been homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Outdoors / streets / parks	157	19.2%
Uncovered garage / attic / basement	1	0.1%
Backyard or storage structure	2	0.3%
Motel / Hotel	17	2.1%
Automobile	4	0.5%
Van	0	0.0%
Camper / RV	1	0.1%
Abandoned building	6	0.7%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping	28	3.4%
Emergency Shelter	390	47.8%
Public Facilities	3	0.4%
Transitional Housing	97	11.9%
Other Shelter	50	6.1%
Other	58	7.1%
Encampment	2	0.3%
Total	816	100.0%

10. Immediately before you became homeless this last time, were you:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Living in a home owned by you or your partner	40	4.9%
Renting a home or apartment	416	50.8%
Staying with friends	118	14.4%
Living with relatives	116	14.2%
Living in subsidized housing	6	0.7%
In a jail or prison	42	5.1%
In a hospital	3	0.4%
In a mental health facility	1	0.1%
In a substance abuse treatment program	8	1.0%
In foster care	2	0.2%
Other	67	8.2%
Total	819	100.0%

11. Where were you living right before you most recently became homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Clark County	583	73.0%
Other area in Nevada, outside of Clark County	27	3.4%
Out of state	188	23.6%
Total	798	100.0%

12. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Can't afford rent	266	32.8%
No job / no income	546	67.4%
No money for moving costs	137	16.9%
No housing available	53	6.5%
No transportation	115	14.2%
Bad credit	98	12.1%
Eviction record	46	5.7%
Criminal record	49	6.0%
In jail or prison	15	1.9%
Other	102	12.6%

Multiple response question with 810 respondents offering 1427 responses

13. What do you think are the top three events or conditions that led to your homelessness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Lost job	439	53.3%
Landlord sold / stopped renting	57	6.9%
Landlord raised rent	26	3.2%
Alcohol or drug use	101	12.3%
Incarceration	74	9.0%
Illness or medical problem	109	13.2%
Mental Health issues	71	8.6%
Argument / family or friend asked you to leave	106	12.9%
Hospitalization / treatment program	32	3.9%
Lost home I owned through foreclosure	16	1.9%
Lost home I rented due to landlord's foreclosure	8	1.0%
Did not receive housing assistance when I left jail / prison	23	2.8%
Family / domestic violence	79	9.6%
Gambling problem	38	4.6%
Got too old for foster care	5	0.6%
Divorced or separated	33	4.0%
Natural disaster / fire / flood	4	0.5%
For being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender	9	1.1%
Other	183	22.2%
Don't Know / Decline to state	47	5.7%

Multiple response question with 823 respondents offering 1460 responses

14. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Emergency Shelter	436	52.5%
Transitional Housing	140	16.8%
Free meals	346	41.6%
Food Pantry	105	12.6%
Bus Passes	146	17.6%
Job training	43	5.2%
Alcohol / Drug counseling	35	4.2%
Shelter day services	165	19.9%
Legal assistance	17	2.0%
Health services	100	12.0%
Mental health services	70	8.4%
Other	44	5.3%
Not using any services	70	8.4%

Multiple response question with 831 respondents offering 1717 responses

15. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of Government assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
General Assistance or General Relief	8	1.0%
Food Stamps	580	71.9%
Service-connected VA Disability Compensation	4	0.5%
Not service-connected VA Pension	3	0.4%
Other Veteran's Benefits	15	1.9%
Social Security	30	3.7%
SSI / SSDI	57	7.1%
TANF	9	1.1%
WIC	15	1.9%
Clark County Social Service housing assistance	24	3.0%
Other governmental assistance	18	2.2%
I am not currently receiving any of these	164	20.3%

Multiple response question with 807 respondents offering 927 responses

16. What is your total monthly income from all Government benefits?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	355	43.5%
\$1 - \$100	23	2.8%
\$101 - \$200	284	34.8%
\$201 - \$300	12	1.5%
\$301 - \$400	20	2.5%
\$401 - \$500	4	0.5%
\$501 - \$600	24	2.9%
\$601 - \$700	22	2.7%
\$701 - \$800	23	2.8%
\$801 - \$900	11	1.3%
\$901 - \$1,000	10	1.2%
Over \$1,000	28	3.4%
Total	816	100.0%

17. What is your current employment status?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Unemployed	718	86.5%
Retired	35	4.2%
Student	7	0.8%
Homemaker	4	0.5%
Employed full-time	20	2.4%
Employed part-time	34	4.1%
Self-employed	7	0.8%
Seasonal worker	5	0.6%
Total	830	100.0%

17a. What is keeping you from getting employment?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Need education	79	10.4%
Need training	100	13.1%
Need clothing	84	11.0%
No shower facilities	35	4.6%
No phone	66	8.7%
Health problems	121	15.9%
Disabled	111	14.6%
Criminal record	80	10.5%
Alcohol / drug issue	41	5.4%
No child care	15	2.0%
No permanent address	152	19.9%
No transportation	185	24.3%
No tools for trade	39	5.1%
No work permit (No SS#)	42	5.5%
No photo identification	67	8.8%
Don't want to work	9	1.2%
No jobs	218	28.6%
Retired	24	3.1%
Spouse / partner doesn't want me to work	3	0.4%
Other	102	13.4%

Multiple response question with 762 respondents offering 1,573 responses

18. What are your other sources of income?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Family / Friends	148	30.3%
Pension	11	2.2%
Child support	7	1.4%
Recycling	32	6.5%
Sex work	8	1.6%
Selling other found items	24	4.9%
Selling blood / plasma	41	8.4%
Gambling	11	2.2%
Other	252	51.5%

Multiple response question with 489 respondents offering 534 responses

19. What is your total monthly income from all non-Government sources (job, panhandling, recycling, etc)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	607	73.5%
\$1 - \$100	92	11.1%
\$101 - \$200	37	4.5%
\$201 - \$300	18	2.2%
\$301 - \$400	9	1.1%
\$401 - \$500	11	1.3%
\$501 - \$600	5	0.6%
\$601 - \$700	8	1.0%
\$701 - \$800	6	0.7%
\$801 - \$900	4	0.5%
\$901 - \$1,000	5	0.6%
Over \$1,000	24	2.9%
Total	826	100.0%

20. Where do you usually get medical care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Hospital emergency room	266	32.3%
Urgent care clinic	33	4.0%
Public health clinic	68	8.3%
Veteran Affairs clinic	55	6.7%
Free clinic / community clinic	166	20.1%
Private Doctor	43	5.2%
Friend / Family	3	0.4%
Don't ever go	153	18.6%
Other	37	4.5%
Total	824	100.0%

21. Since you became homeless this last time, have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	230	30.0%
No	536	70.0%
Total	766	100.0%

22. How many times in the last 3 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never	569	67.3%
1 time	133	15.7%
2 times	68	8.0%
3 times	36	4.3%
4 times	20	2.4%
5 times	9	1.1%
More than 5 times	10	1.2%
Total	845	100.0%

23. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never	488	57.8%
1 time	137	16.2%
2 times	76	9.0%
3 times	59	7.0%
4 times	26	3.1%
5 times	18	2.1%
More than 5 times	41	4.8%
Total	845	100.0%

24. How many times in the last 12 months have you been hospitalized as an inpatient?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never	645	76.3%
1 time	104	12.3%
2 times	44	5.2%
3 times	22	2.6%
4 times	12	1.4%
5 times	0	0.0%
More than 5 times	18	2.1%
Total	845	100.0%

25. How many nights in the last 12 months have you spent in jail or prison, if any?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 nights	672	79.5%
1-5 nights	58	6.9%
6-10 nights	14	1.7%
11-20 nights	15	1.8%
21-50 nights	23	2.7%
More than 50 nights	63	7.4%
Total	845	100.0%

26. How many separate terms have you served in jail/prison in the last 12 months?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 terms	585	81.8%
1 term	80	11.2%
2 terms	26	3.6%
3 terms	12	1.7%
4 terms	4	0.6%
5 terms	1	0.1%
6+ terms	7	1.0%
Total	715	100.0%

26a. How long were you in jail/prison in the last 12 months?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1 month or less	8	38.1%
2 months	2	9.5%
3 months	4	19.0%
4 months	1	4.8%
5 months	0	0.0%
6 months	1	4.8%
7 months	1	4.8%
8 months	1	4.8%
9 months	2	9.5%
10 months	0	0.0%
11 months	0	0.0%
12 months	0	0.0%
1-2 years	0	0.0%
2-3 years	1	4.7%
More than 3 years	0	0.0%
Total	21	100.0%

26b. Did you become homeless immediately after you were released from jail/prison?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	84	69.4%
No	37	30.6%
Total	121	100.0%

27. Are you experiencing now or in the past any of the following:

	Yes	No	Total
27a. Physical Disability	34.9% 258	65.1% 482	100.0% 740
27b. Mental Illness	24.5% 169	75.5% 521	100.0% 690
27c. Depression	46.4% 279	53.6% 322	100.0% 601
27d. Alcohol/drug abuse	27.2% 150	72.8% 401	100.0% 551
27e. Domestic violence/abuse	14.1% 98	85.9% 598	100.0% 696
27f. Chronic health problem	28.2% 193	71.8% 491	100.0% 684
27g. AIDS/HIV related illness	0.9% 6	99.1% 673	100.0% 679
27h. Tuberculosis	1.2% 8	98.8% 645	100.0% 653
27i. Hepatitis C	7.2% 49	92.8% 634	100.0% 683
27j. PTSD	11.8% 78	88.2% 584	100.0% 662
27k. Developmental Disability	5.3% 36	94.7% 645	100.0% 681
27l. Emphysema	3.1% 20	96.9% 621	100.0% 641
27m. Diabetes	9.9% 67	90.1% 607	100.0% 674
27n. Asthma	12.8% 84	87.2% 570	100.0% 654
27o. Cancer	2.9% 20	97.1% 661	100.0% 681
27p. Kidney disease/renal/dialysis	2.8% 19	97.2% 657	100.0% 676
27q. History of hypothermia/frostbite	2.3% 16	97.7% 678	100.0% 694
27r. Liver disease/cirrhosis	4.2% 29	95.8% 657	100.0% 686
27s. Heart disease/arrhythmia	10.2% 70	89.8% 613	100.0% 683

27. Does it prevent you from getting work or housing?

	Yes	No	Total
27a. Physical Disability	75.1% 169	24.9% 56	100.0% 225
27b. Mental Illness	68.0% 100	32.0% 47	100.0% 147
27c. Depression	51.9% 124	48.1% 115	100.0% 239
27d. Alcohol/drug abuse	57.0% 73	43.0% 55	100.0% 128
27e. Domestic violence/abuse	40.0% 32	60.0% 48	100.0% 80
27f. Chronic health problem	73.4% 116	26.6% 42	100.0% 158
27g. AIDS/HIV related illness	80.0% 4	20.0% 1	100.0% 5
27h. Tuberculosis	83.3% 5	16.7% 1	100.0% 6
27i. Hepatitis C	52.4% 22	47.6% 20	100.0% 42
27j. PTSD	65.2% 43	34.8% 23	100.0% 66
27k. Developmental Disability	73.3% 22	26.7% 8	100.0% 30
27l. Emphysema	68.8% 11	31.3% 5	100.0% 16
27m. Diabetes	37.5% 24	62.5% 40	100.0% 64
27n. Asthma	34.9% 22	65.1% 41	100.0% 63
27o. Cancer	50.0% 8	50.0% 8	100.0% 16
27p. Kidney disease/renal/dialysis	50.0% 8	50.0% 8	100.0% 16
27q. History of hypothermia/frostbite	26.7% 4	73.3% 11	100.0% 15
27r. Liver disease/cirrhosis	57.7% 15	42.3% 11	100.0% 26
27s. Heart disease/arrhythmia	57.4% 35	42.6% 26	100.0% 61

28. Have you ever abused drugs / alcohol, or been told you do?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	310	41.9%
No	430	58.1%
Total	740	100.0%

29. Have you ever consumed alcohol everyday for the past month?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	83	11.4%
No	648	88.6%
Total	731	100.0%

30. Have you ever used injection drugs or shots?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	59	8.1%
No	672	91.9%
Total	731	100.0%

31. Have you ever been treated for drug or alcohol abuse?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	168	23.6%
No	544	76.4%
Total	712	100.0%

32. Are you currently or have you ever received treatment for mental health issues?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	177	24.1%
No	557	75.9%
Total	734	100.0%

33. Were you ever taken to the hospital against your will for mental health reasons?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	64	8.8%
No	661	91.2%
Total	725	100.0%

34. OBSERVED: Serious physical health conditions?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	90	13.9%
No	559	86.1%
Total	649	100.0%

35. OBSERVED: Alcohol or drug abuse?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	91	14.2%
No	550	85.8%
Total	641	100.0%

36. OBSERVED: Severe persistent mental illness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	77	12.4%
No	546	87.6%
Total	623	100.0%

37. Do you have a pet?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	80	81.6%
1	14	14.3%
2	2	2.0%
3	1	1.0%
4	0	0.0%
5	1	1.0%
6+	0	0.0%
Total	98	100.0%

38. What kind of pet?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Dog	31	70.5%
Cat	13	29.5%
Reptile	0	0.0%
Other	2	4.5%

Multiple response question with 44 respondents offering 46 responses

APPENDIX IV: GENERAL POPULATION TELEPHONE SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Clark County Social Services
Hidden Homeless Survey

Page 1

I. Introduction and Respondent Screening

Hello, my name is _____, and I'm calling on behalf of the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census project. I'm calling today to ask a few questions about housing and homeless issues in the county. All of your answers are confidential and will only be reported as part of a group response. If there are any questions you would prefer not to answer, just let me know and we will skip over it. This call may be monitored or recorded for quality.

Screener 1:

May I verify that you are 18 years of age or older?

- (01) Yes [GO TO Q1]
- (02) No [Go To S1A]
- (03) No Response/Refused [TERMINATE]

Screener 1a:

May I please speak to someone in the household 18 years of age or older?

- (01) Yes [GO BACK TO INTRO]
- (02) No, Not Available [SCHEDULE A CALLBACK]
- (03) No/Refused [TERMINATE]

II. Questionnaire

Q1. Is there anyone staying at this address on a TEMPORARY basis who might be considered homeless? And by homeless, I mean someone who lacks a regular and adequate nighttime residence of their own due to lack of money or other means of support?

- (01) Yes
- (02) No
- (03) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (04) No Response/Refused [Don't Read]

Q2: Do you know any OTHER households in Clark County that have someone staying there on a TEMPORARY basis who might be considered homeless?

- (01) Yes
- (02) No
- (03) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (04) No Response/Refused [Don't Read]

[IF BOTH Q1 AND Q2 = 3 OR 4, END SURVEY; IF Q1 = 2, 3 OR 4 AND Q2 = 3 OR 4, END SURVEY; IF Q2 = 2, 3 OR 4 AND Q1 = 3 OR 4, END SURVEY; IF BOTH Q1 AND Q2 OR ONLY Q2 = 1, CONTINUE TO Q3; IF ONLY Q1 = 1, AUTO PUNCH AS 1 AND GO TO Q4AA]

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Q3: How many? An individual on their own should be considered a household of 1. Please remember to include anyone in your home as a household of 1.

_____ # of Households

[DON'T KNOW, ENTER 98; NO ANSWER OR REFUSED, ENTER 99; SKIP TO END OF SURVEY, COUNT AS COMPLETE]

Q4 Prompt: **[WHEN Q3 > 1, READ PROMPT]** You told me there are [Q3 Number] households that might be considered homeless. I will ask you about each household separately.

[LOOP BASED ON NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS]

Q4aa: For the (1st, 2nd, etc.) household, how many individuals are living there on a TEMPORARY basis who might be considered homeless? **[IF YES TO Q1 ONLY]** How many individuals are there living in your household on a TEMPORARY basis who might be considered homeless?

_____ # of Individuals

[DON'T KNOW, ENTER 98; NO ANSWER OR REFUSED, ENTER 99; SKIP TO Q5]

[LOOP FOR EACH PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD, IF MORE THAN 1 PERSON IN Q4AA, "THINKING ABOUT THE (1ST, 2ND, ETC.) PERSON IN THIS HOUSEHOLD"]

Q4a: Is the person male, female, or undetermined gender?

- (01) Male
- (02) Female
- (03) Undetermined Gender
- (04) Refused [Don't Read]

Q4b: How old is he or she?

- (01) Under 18 Years Old
- (02) 18 – 24 Years Old
- (03) 25+ Years Old
- (04) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (05) No Response/Refused [Don't Read]

Q4c: **[ADULTS ONLY]** Has this person served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces (e.g. served in a full-time capacity in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or called into active duty as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist)?

- (01) Yes
- (02) No
- (03) Don't Know [Don't Read]

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(04) No Response/Refused [Don't Read]

Q4d: Does this person have a drug problem, a serious mental health problem, or HIV/AIDS? [MULTIPLE CHOICE]

- (01) Severely Mentally Ill
- (02) Substance Abuse
- (03) HIV/AIDS
- (04) None Of The Above
- (05) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (06) No Response/Refused [Don't Read]

Q4e: [IF Q4D = 1 or 2] Does this limit their ability to get or keep a job or take care of personal matters such as taking care of themselves, taking medications a doctor has prescribed, taking care of children, going shopping, or getting around in the community?

- (01) Yes
- (02) No
- (03) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (04) No Response/Refused [Don't Read]

[LOOP BACK TO Q4A, NEXT PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD UNTIL LAST MEMBER]

Q5: Where has this household been living? I will read you a list of choices. [IF YES TO Q1 ONLY, AUTO PUNCH WITH 1]

- (01) This Residence
- (02) Other Residence
- (03) Emergency Shelter
- (04) Streets Or Place Not Meant For Habitation (Bus Station, Underpass, Encampment, Abandoned Buildings, Etc.)
- (05) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (06) No Response [Don't Read]

Q5a: [ONLY IF Q5 = 1] Could you tell me where on the property they usually sleep? I will read you a list of choices.

- (01) Uncovered Garage
- (02) Attic
- (03) Basement
- (04) Other Area In Main House
- (05) Outdoor Porch
- (06) Vehicle/Camper Or Van Parked On Property
- (07) Tent/Shed Or Other Outside Location
- (08) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (09) No Response [Don't Read]

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Q5b: [ONLY IF Q5A = 4] Which area is that? I will read you a list of choices.

- (01) Bedroom
- (02) Family Room/Living Room/Den
- (03) Dining Room/Kitchen
- (04) Laundry Room Or Other Inside Storage Area
- (05) Other (Specify): _____ [Don't Read]
- (06) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (07) No Response [Don't Read]

Q6: [IF Q3 ≥ 1] How long has this household been staying at this location?

- (01) Less Than 1 Month
- (02) 1 – 3 Months
- (03) 4 – 6 Months
- (04) 7 – 12 Months
- (05) More Than 1 Year
- (06) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (07) No Response [Don't Read]

Q7: [IF Q5 = 3 OR 4; IF Q3 ≥ 1] How many different times has this household had to stay in a shelter or lived on the streets in the past three years?

- (01) 1
- (02) 2
- (03) 3
- (04) 4
- (05) 5+
- (06) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (07) No Response [Don't Read]

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Q8: [IF Q3 ≥ 1] What do you think are the top 3 events or conditions that led to this household's homelessness?
[TOP 3]

- (01) Lost Job
- (02) Landlord Sold/Stopped Renting Or Re-Used Property
- (03) Landlord Raised Rent
- (04) Alcohol Or Drug Use
- (05) Incarceration
- (06) Illness Or Medical Problem
- (07) Mental Health Issues
- (08) Argument/Family Or Friend Asked Them To Leave
- (09) Hospitalization
- (10) Lost Home They Owned Through Foreclosure
- (11) Lost Home They Rented Due To Landlord's Foreclosure
- (12) Didn't Receive Housing Assistance When They Left Jail/Prison
- (13) Family/Domestic Violence
- (14) Gambling Problem
- (15) They Got Too Old For Foster Care
- (16) Divorce Or Separation
- (17) Natural Disaster/Fire/Flood
- (18) For Being Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Or Transgender
- (19) Other (Specify): _____
- (20) No More/Done
- (21) Don't Know
- (22) No Response

Q9: [IF Q3 ≥ 1] Which income range best describes the household's income? Stop me when I get to the correct amount.

- (01) Less Than \$15,000 Per Year
- (02) \$15,001 - \$25,000 Per Year
- (03) \$25,001 - \$35,000 Per Year
- (04) \$35,001 - \$50,000 Per Year
- (05) \$50,001 to \$75,000 Per Year
- (06) \$75,001 to \$100,000 Per Year
- (07) \$100,001 to \$150,000 Per Year
- (08) Over \$150,000
- (09) Don't Know [Don't Read]
- (10) No Response/Refused [Don't Read]

[LOOP TO NEXT HOUSEHOLD Q4AA]

Those are all the questions we have. Thank you for your time.

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APPENDIX V: SUMMARY FOR THE COC APPLICATION

The following summaries provide local jurisdictions with consolidated information to enable the completion of the application for Continuum of Care (CoC) funds. These summaries are based upon the results discussed in this report. It is important to note that any information regarding sheltered homeless populations and subpopulations reflect only those sheltered in emergency shelters (ES), transitional housing (TH), and safe havens (SH). The exception to this rule is in regards to the Chronically Homeless subpopulation (i.e. Chronically Homeless Individuals, Chronically Homeless Families, and Persons in Chronically Homeless Families); transitional housing does not apply to this subpopulation.

Homeless Populations

The following table details the results of the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey. The results are broken down by sheltered versus unsheltered status.

Part 1: Homeless Population	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total Amount
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
1. Households with at least one adult and one child					
1a. Number of households	131	83	--	8	222
1b. Total number of persons (adults & children)	342	247	--	21	610
1c. Number of persons (under age 18)	223	156	--	9	388
1d. Number of persons (18 – 24)	17	27	--	5	49
1e. Number of persons (over age 24)	102	64	--	7	173
2. Households with only children					
2a. Total number of households	16	16	--	404	436
2b. Number of one-child households	16	14	--	403	433
2c. Number of multi-child households	0	2		1	3
2d. Total number of persons (under age 18)	16	18	--	405	439
2e. Number of children in multi-child households	0	4	--	2	6
3. Households without children					
3a. Number of households	1,635	571	20	3,985	6,211
3b. Number of persons (adults)	1,689	588	20	4,010	6,307
3c. Number of persons (age 18-24)	98	87	0	1,243	1,428
3d. Number of persons (over age 24)	1,591	501	20	2,767	4,879
Total households and persons					
Total households (lines: 1a+2a+3a)	1,782	670	20	4,397	6,869
Total persons (lines: 1b+2d+3b)	2,047	853	20	4,436	7,355

Number of households without dependent children is an estimate based on survey results.

Homeless Subpopulations

The following table further breaks down the homeless count data into subpopulations. These data are based on both the homeless count and data from the homeless survey. Lines 1-6 of the following chart are estimates calculated by applying the survey results to the point-in-time homeless count population.

Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
Chronically Homeless Subpopulations	Emergency	Safe Haven			
1a. Chronically Homeless Individuals	218	1		476	695
1b. Chronically Homeless Families (Total Number of Families)	0	--		0	0
1c. Chronically Homeless Families (Total Persons in Household)	0	--		0	0
Other Homeless Subpopulations	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
2a. Total Number of Veterans (including female Veterans)			406	460	866
2b. Total Number of Female Veterans (subset of all Veterans)			25	24	49
3. Severely Mentally Ill			629	1,182	1,811
4. Chronic Substance Abuse			178	491	669
5. Persons with HIV/AIDS			10	61	71
6. Victims of Domestic Violence			332	445	777

Note: The following definitions were used for the purposes of this report:

Individuals: persons in households without children

Family: persons in households with at least one adult and one child (under 18)

Only Children: persons in households composed of only children

APPENDIX VI: HOMELESS CENSUS & SURVEY METHODOLOGY

1. OVERVIEW

The purpose of the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey was twofold: to produce a point-in-time estimate of the number of homeless persons present in Southern Nevada, and to broaden the scope of understanding regarding the experience and characteristics of homelessness in Southern Nevada through a survey. The ultimate goal of both the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count and the Homeless Survey was to obtain valuable data to be utilized by policy-makers to improve homeless services and programs on both a local and national level.

The following summary of methodology is divided into two sections; the first section details the methodology applied to the Point-in-Time Count and the second section details the methodology applied to the Homeless Survey.

2. POINT-IN-TIME COUNT CENSUS

The PIT Count, methodology is divided into two components:

1. **Street Count** – Enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals. For the purposes of this study, the 2013 HUD definition of an unsheltered homeless individual is as follows:

Individuals and families “...with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground”

2. **Shelter and Institution Count** – Enumeration of sheltered homeless individuals. For the purposes of this study, the 2013 HUD definition of a sheltered homeless individual is as follows:

Individuals and families “...living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals...this includes individuals residing in Safe Haven provider programs.”

The Street Count and the Shelter/Institution Count were conducted during the same time period to minimize the potential for duplicate counting of homeless persons.*

2.1 Street Count Methodology

2.1.1 Research Design:

Due to the dense population and the large size of Southern Nevada, it was necessary to conduct the PIT Count of unsheltered individuals over a two-day period.

Persons residing in the following were NOT included in the 2013 PIT Count per HUD.⁸

- Persons residing in permanent supportive housing programs, including persons housed using Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers.
- Persons counted in any location not listed on the HIC (e.g., staying in programs with beds/units not dedicated for persons who are homeless, such as detox centers).
- Persons temporarily staying with family or friends (i.e., “doubled-up” or “couch surfing”).
- Persons residing in their own unit (i.e., permanent housing) with assistance from a RRH provider program as of the night of the count.

2.1.2 Enumerators:

In order to properly enumerate a homeless population of such substantial size as that of Southern Nevada, individuals with an intimate knowledge of the typical activities and location of homeless persons are imperative. Thus, it is necessary to recruit and train homeless individuals to work as enumerators. These homeless workers are an invaluable component of the street count methodology.

2.1.2a Recruitment & Training of Homeless Enumerators:

In order to participate in the Street Count as a Homeless Guide, homeless individuals were required to attend a one-hour information and training session. During the week prior to the street count, training sessions were held at various locations throughout Southern Nevada.

Homeless individuals, staff from homeless service agencies, and various staff from Southern Nevada attended the enumeration trainings. Members of the SNRPC-CoH Regional Initiatives Office trained these teams of volunteers prior to the PIT count. Team captains were chosen to provide observation, guidance, and in-the-field training.

** In order to generate data that is comparable to previous reports, the methodology outlined in this section closely parallels the methodology of previous years. Therefore, the information in this section is partially derived from: Applied Survey Research 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Census And Survey Appendix I: Homeless Census And Survey Methodology.¹⁵*

During each training session, trainers presented techniques and methods that would be utilized to enumerate the homeless population during the street count.

2.1.2b Street Count Enumeration Teams:

Two-person teams were created on the morning of the Street Count. To create the teams, volunteers were paired and in areas that utilized Homeless Guides, each Homeless Guide was paired with a volunteer. This combination has been proven to be particularly effective for the Street Count, as both the Homeless Guide and the volunteer possess unique knowledge and expertise that can be applied to working in the field.

2.1.3 Street Count Procedure

2.1.3a Precautions:

Significant efforts were implemented to avoid potentially hazardous situations. A safe environment was created in all deployment centers, and law enforcement officials in each district were notified of the pending PIT Count that was to take place in their jurisdictions.

2.1.3b Preparation:

Using a stratified sampling technique, this enumeration was conducted on the nights of January 23 and 24, 2013. It should be noted that the enumeration teams achieved 94% coverage of existing census tracts, making this enumeration closely comparable to a comprehensive enumeration with full canvassing.

After the teams were created, each team was provided with a census tract map outlining the particular area to which they were assigned. They were also given a review document highlighting the enumeration techniques, a tally sheet, and other supplies. Shortly before each team deployed to their assigned locations, the leaders conducted a brief review of the enumeration techniques, emphasizing the importance of not disturbing the homeless persons during the enumeration.

2.1.3c Street Count Deployment:

The 7,910 square mile area that comprises Southern Nevada is divided into 344 federally designated census tracts. Each team received official census maps that identified tract boundaries, and each team was assigned to enumerate no more than two tracts. In order to collect comprehensive data from each census tract, PIT organizers established numerous deployment stations throughout the valley.

Due to the large size of the Southern Nevada region, the enumeration was conducted over the period of two days (January 23 – 24, 2013), and divided into two sections: urban and rural. Both count deployments occurred in the early morning hours. More

specifically, the deployment assigned to the urban sections of Southern Nevada was deployed at 2:00 am on the morning of January 23, 2013. In order to minimize duplications, both teams collected enumeration data within a 26-hour period. The deployment team assigned to the rural sections of Southern Nevada was deployed at 5:00 am on the morning of January 23, 2013. Police and fire departments utilized infrared technology to focus on the unpopulated areas of these rural sections.

The early morning hours are the optimum time to obtain an accurate count of unsheltered homeless persons. This is the time street homeless persons are most visible, thus reducing the risk of duplicate counting.

The enumeration teams included the community partners, volunteers, and jurisdictional staff. This team canvassed all accessible highways, streets, and roads in the census tracts using vehicles, bikes, or traveling by foot. Although several homeless workers provided their own modes of transportation, the majority of workers and volunteers were transported to and from assigned census tracts via personal or agency vehicles.

In partnership with CCSD, teams collected data for homeless children and youth during daylight hours. At 11:00 a.m. on the morning of January 23, 2013, CCSD gathered data for those children attending school. Simultaneously, teams targeted all youth not present in classrooms. These teams canvassed areas frequented by the homeless youth population (e.g. parks, malls, libraries, recreation centers). This co-occurring count strategy ensured little to no duplicative enumeration of homeless children and youth.

Each person identified as homeless within the assigned census tracts was tallied according to the following household categories outlined below.

For the purposes of this report, the following definitions were used for *household*, *individual*, *family*, and a *household with only children*:

- **Household:** Occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.
- **Individuals:** Persons in a household without children
- **Family:** Persons in households with at least one adult and one child (under 18)
- **Only Children:** Persons in households composed of only children

For each of the following types of households, and the number of persons in each household were reported by age category (under age 18, age 18-24, over age 24).

- Total Number of Households
- Total Number of One-Child Households
- Total Number of Multi-Child Households
 - Number of Children in Multi-Child Households

Once each team had completed the enumeration process, they returned to their designated deployment station and submitted their census tally forms to the deployment station captains. Deployment station captains then debriefed each deployment team, and provided any necessary clarification, explanation, and validation of data. Each team was provided time to discuss and comment on the enumeration process, providing information regarding the integrity of the 2013 enumeration effort. Reviews were conducted to check for duplicate counting, and to ensure that all accessible portions of each census tract had been enumerated.

2.1.3d Efforts Undertaken to Ensure Enumeration Accuracy

- **Determining Homeless Status By Observation:** Homeless enumeration is a difficult task, and undercounting is a prominent possibility. Despite the difficulties associated with enumerating the unsheltered homeless population of Southern Nevada, all people, vehicles, abandoned buildings, and encampments were reported to be visually observable by the enumeration teams. This observation-only method enables the PIT Count officials to claim the results of the count to be as accurate and valid as possible. The members of the enumeration teams, especially the homeless guides claimed that they had no difficulty identifying homeless individuals and differentiating them from members of the general population. Therefore, although there are no means by which the PIT Count officials can guarantee that those enumerated are indeed homeless, they can state that all possible measures were undertaken to ensure the accuracy and validity of the count.
- **Duplicate Counting:** Numerous precautions were implemented into the design of the PIT Count to avoid duplicate counting of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons. The count took place during a targeted timeframe when sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals are least likely to comeingle. Additionally, volunteers and homeless workers were instructed to refrain from engaging in direct contact with the enumerated homeless persons; they were instructed to maintain an observation-only approach. Also, the census and survey were at different times; administering both in tandem would have increased the amount of time each portion would take, thus increasing the likelihood of duplicate counting.
- **Unaccompanied Homeless Youth:** For numerous reasons, homeless unaccompanied youth are particularly difficult to enumerate. The homeless youth population typically refrains from co-mingling with the homeless adult

population, and tend to reside in places that make enumeration difficult. To overcome these enumeration barriers, specialized youth enumeration teams were created. These teams consisted of homeless youth and formerly homeless youth. The homeless youth population was enumerated at a later time than the unsheltered homeless adults. They were enumerated from 11:00am to 2:00pm due to the fact that this is the time that homeless unaccompanied youth are most likely to be visible on the streets. Homeless youth under the age of 18 and those between the ages of 18 and 24 typically associate in the same social circles, making it possible to enumerate both groups. All locations were recorded according to the nearest intersection. They were then assigned census tract locations post-facto before being included in the overall countywide enumeration results.

In addition to the above enumeration processes, the Clark County School District, which updated its housing inventory during the same timeframe as the census, reported all students who reported to be homeless. Only those students who matched the HUD definition for literally homeless were included in the final count.

2.2 Shelter & Institution Count Methodology

2.2.1 Purpose:

The purpose of the Shelter and Institution (S&I) Count was to enumerate homeless persons who are temporarily residing in Southern Nevada shelters and other institutions. The data obtained from this count was used to capture an overall count of homeless persons in Southern Nevada, and an appraisal of where these homeless persons seek shelter.

It is important to note that the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for Nevada and the PIT Module (Surveus) was also used to generate data for provider programs with 100 percent of their beds participating in the HMIS. It was verified through Provider Program Staff that their HMIS data was complete and correct for the night of the PIT Count, including correct exit dates for all persons who exited the provider program on or before the date of the PIT.

Shelters included the following HUD defined housing category types:

2.2.1a Emergency Shelters

- All emergency shelters funded by HUD ESG and/or other federal, state and local public and private sources
- Hotel/Motel Vouchers paid for by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals
- All VA-funded HCHV/EH and HCHV/RT provider programs including VA Community Contract Emergency Housing (prefix HCHV/EH) and Health Care for Homeless Veterans VA Community Contract Residential Treatment Program (prefix HCHV/RT)

2.2.1b Transitional Housing

- HUD-funded transitional housing projects renewing in 2012 CoC competition
- All transitional housing provider programs funded by HUD SHP still operating, but not renewing in 2012 CoC competition
- All transitional housing provider programs for homeless persons funded by other Federal, State, and local public and private sources that do not use the RRH model
- HUD-funded Rapid Re-Housing Demonstration (RRHD) provider programs
- VA-funded transitional housing provider programs, including:
 - VA Grant and Per Diem (prefix GPD)
 - VA Compensated Work Therapy – Transitional Residence (prefix CWT/TR)

2.2.1c Safe Haven Programs

- All Safe Haven provider programs funded by HUD SHP
- All VA-funded Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) VA Community Contract Safe Haven Program (prefix HCHV/SH)

2.2.2 Research Design & Data Collection:

All persons who matched the following criteria where included in the Shelter and Institution Count:

- Entered on or before the date of the count
- Exited after the date of the count (or have not yet exited)

The participation of a broad range of Southern Nevada homeless agencies was necessary to make the S&I Count possible. These shelters included emergency shelters, safe havens, jails, drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities, hospitals, and agencies that provide vouchers for homeless persons to stay in motels or hotels, and transitional housing programs.

The first task of the S&I Count was to attempt to identify and collect the contact information of all of the Southern Nevada agencies, both public and private, that temporarily house homeless people. It was then requested that these agencies send Bitfocus Inc the total amount of homeless persons that were housed in their programs on the night of January 23, 2013. In addition, all data generated from the HMIS that night was collected to ensure the HMIS data coincided with the totals sent by each agency.

2.3 Persons in Tunnels and Hidden Homeless Count

2.3.1 Persons In Tunnels

Beginning in 2011, special enumeration teams have been strategically formed to target the tunnels in Southern Nevada. These teams consist of outreach workers who are familiar with the tunnels and their occupants, as well as formerly homeless individuals who once occupied

the tunnels. In 2011, 477 homeless persons were enumerated in the tunnels.¹⁵ In 2013, similar teams were formed, however, due to rain and risk of flooding, this enumeration was limited; 53 homeless persons were added to the 2013 enumeration total.

2.3.2 Hidden Homeless Count

In an effort to locate the “hidden” homeless of Southern Nevada, Applied Analysis conducted a telephone survey of the general population of Southern Nevada between March 14, 2013 and March 22, 2013. * **The following is their report:**¹⁴

This survey yielded valuable information regarding Clark County’s “hidden” homeless, and this supplemental research effort is one of few ever conducted as part of a homeless enumeration. Many service providers and researchers have speculated that there is a large number of “hidden” homeless in Clark County who self-define as homeless but do not live in shelters or on the streets. These persons live on private property, but in locations that would not be considered “double-ups” as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These locations include tents, cars/vans, unconverted garages and storage sheds.

The general population survey was conducted via telephone, lasted between 10 and 15 minutes and was completed by 1,002 randomly selected southern Nevada households. The survey was administered in both English and Spanish. A household member was asked a series of questions about individuals and families who were living on property on a “temporary” basis. Of a total of 1,002 households surveyed, 36 responded that one or more homeless individuals lived on their property. Of those 36, 23 were homeless individuals and 13 were homeless families. There were a total of 60 individuals, translating into a gross potential hidden homeless rate of 5.99 percent.

Homelessness is not always easy to define. To ensure conservative estimates, stringent filters were designed to rule out “double-ups” (based on sleeping location). Using information about where the homeless persons were living on the property, the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness was applied to determine if these individuals could officially be counted as homeless. HUD specifically excludes people who “double-up” with friends or family (i.e., two families living under the same roof) from their Exhibit I CoC funding application, and the research team attempted to be faithful to this definition and conservative in our estimate of the “hidden” homeless population. Anyone living inside the house, such as in a bedroom, family room, living room, dining room, or den, was excluded from our projection.

**Please note that Applied Analysis refers to Southern Nevada as ‘Clark County.’ As with this document in its entirety, Clark County should be considered Southern Nevada.*

After working through this filtering process, there were two households that could not be classified as anything other than homeless. These two households represent a total of two homeless persons, all unaccompanied individual adults. These persons were living in locations encompassed under HUD's definition of homelessness such as vehicles and unconverted garages.

Using these data, a projection of "hidden" homeless individuals meeting our conservative definitions was possible. Using the 2009-2011 U.S. Census American Community Survey 3-Year County Population Estimate,³⁸ it was determined that Clark County has approximately 702,000 households. The findings from the general population survey sample were projected to the county level based on the number of households in the sample area. Given the general population survey sample size was 1,002 households, we were able to use the results of the telephone survey to create a rate per household, and then estimate that response for the entire County. The phone survey revealed an additional 1,401 homeless persons who represented the "hidden" homeless.

Importantly, the people identified during the survey were designated as unsheltered people for practical purposes, as they were not utilizing Clark County shelter facilities (e.g., emergency shelters and transitional housing). Therefore, the results of the general population survey were then added to the unsheltered count.

The results of the random telephone survey have a margin of error of ± 3.1 percent at the 95-percent confidence interval, well within the accepted range for market research studies. Although households were randomly selected, only limited demographic data were captured from respondents; and as such, the results could be impacted by sampling bias. The total sample of possible phone numbers contained 9,111 land-line phone numbers. We know there is potential bias in the fact that some households may have more than one voice line and some have no phone at all. Sampling bias is an important issue to consider, and there were no known biases in the scientific statistical sample that was used. The sample drawn was a stratified, weighted random digit dial (RDD) sample. There is precedence for this type of study in the seminal 1995 study, "Lifetime and 5 Year Prevalence of Homelessness in the United States" (Link, et al., 1995, American Journal of Public Health)³⁹ and the 2001 study, "Comparing Adults in Los Angeles County Who Have and Have Not Been Homeless" (Cousineau, 2001, Journal of Community Psychology).⁴⁰ Household phone lines were dialed automatically, while mobile numbers were dialed by hand, in accordance with the regulations governing telephone research.

The response rate for the survey was approximately 22 percent. This means that the non-responders could potentially be significantly different from those who did respond. Due to the general nature of telephone surveying, the natural suspicion from many respondents, and the potential code violation aspects of housing a homeless person in a non-standard location, our research team feels the survey results are valid, conservative, and can be generalized. The

estimates reported here are more likely an undercount of this phenomenon rather than an overestimate.¹⁴

2.4 Homeless Point-In-Time Count Census Challenges & Assumptions Of Annual Estimation

2.4.1 Challenges:

Homeless enumeration is challenging for any community; Southern Nevada, however, presents its own unique set of challenges. Homeless individuals, in general, do not want to be visible; they make concerted efforts to avoid detection. Therefore, regardless of the methodology or the amount of effort placed into the outreach, the final enumeration amount will still be considered an undercount.

Although academically-sound, the Southern Nevada Census effort was still subject to the innate challenges of enumerating homeless populations. The non-intrusive, point-in-time, visual homeless enumeration techniques were still hindered by inherent biases and shortcomings.

Several of the challenges enumerators face are discussed below.

2.4.1a Large & Diverse Community With Difficult Access:

Southern Nevada is a large community filled with a diverse population. It is composed of large commercial districts, suburbs, and a vast amount of outlying rural counties. Most homeless persons tend to remain close to the homeless shelters and facilities, but homeless persons, especially families, can reside in the suburb and outlying rural counties which are difficult for enumerators to access. In general, homeless populations are composed of groups that are difficult to enumerate. These include:

- **Chronically Homeless Individuals:** These individuals are not guaranteed to access social, health, or shelter services on a frequent or consistent basis.
- **Homeless Persons with Children:** Many parents and their children remain hidden in obscure locations in fear of having to release their children to Child Protective Services. They often stay on private property, out of sight from the enumeration teams.
- **Unaccompanied Homeless Youth:** This population tends to strive to remain hidden, and is thus less visible than homeless adults.
- **Homeless Persons Residing in Unsafe Structures:** Many homeless individuals reside in buildings or locations that are unsafe for the enumerators to investigate.
- **Homeless Persons Located in Isolated Rural Areas:** The rural counties of Southern Nevada are vast and make accurate enumeration exceptionally difficult.

- **Homeless Persons Residing in Cars:** This segment of the homeless population tends to relocate every few days, making accurate enumeration difficult.

Despite the fact that the conservative approach taken cannot ensure a fully accurate count; it is necessary to ensure accurate data. Coupled with the homeless survey, this methodology is the most comprehensive approach available.

2.4.1b Assumptions Of Annual Estimation:

The calculations used to project the annual estimate of homeless persons are governed by two assumptions:

1. The homeless survey responses are homogenous to the responses that would have been provided at any other point-in-time during the year and are representative of the entire Southern Nevada homeless population.
2. The results of the PIT Count are homogenous to that of a count that would have been conducted at any time during the year.

Service providers support these assumptions, stating that demand for services remains relatively stable throughout the year. They also state that the amount of homeless persons that access services remains relatively stable, with the only major variations being the seasonal variations in the proportion of sheltered versus unsheltered homeless.

Policy-makers must take into account that most homeless experiences are fairly short-term (e.g. less than a year). However, Bitfocus Inc. is confident that the combination of the size of the survey sample (860), the statistical reliability of the projections, the unavoidable undercount inherent in any homeless census, as well as the use of a HUD-approved annualization calculation ensures that the current methodology was the most complete and accurate of all available approaches.

3. HOMELESS SURVEY

3.1 Research Design & Procedure

3.1.1 Purpose

860 homeless persons were surveyed in order to yield qualitative data to enhance understanding of the scope and characteristics of the homeless community in Southern Nevada. Through open-ended, closed-ended, and multiple response questions, the survey yielded information from the following topic areas:

- Gender
- Family status
- Military service
- Length and recurrence of homelessness
- Access to homeless services and programs

The data obtained from this survey is used for the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance funding application. The data broaden and enhance the efficacy of existing programs and services. In addition the survey results continue to paint a picture of homelessness in Southern Nevada, measuring changes in the composition of the homeless population since 2007.

3.1.2 Procedure

3.1.2.a Survey Workers & Volunteers:

The SNRPC-CoH Regional Initiatives Office trained service providers and homeless workers regarding how to conduct the survey. The training consisted of a comprehensive instruction regarding confidentiality, interviewing protocol, determining respondent eligibility, and project background information. Self-administered surveys were accepted in order to maintain the integrity of the standardized protocol. The surveys were administered within the shelters, and due to confidentiality issues, service providers administered the surveys.

3.1.2b Survey Sampling:

The survey workers employed a random sampling strategy, as outlined by HUD,⁸ in order to minimize selection bias. This strategy was characterized as an “every third encounter” approach, meaning the survey workers approached every third person they considered to be eligible for the survey.

Interviewers inquired whether the homeless individual had already taken the survey. If they had not, they were then asked if they were willing to do so. Survey administrators also informed the homeless individuals of the ‘thank you’ gift that they would receive upon completion of the survey. If the homeless individual declined, the service providers were instructed to approach the next homeless individual they encountered. They were instructed to document the number of refusals, however, the majority (99.1%) of homeless individuals approached agreed to take the survey (there were 8 refusals). It is important to note that although this refusal rate is low, it is possible that those individuals who refused to take the survey could have provided significantly different responses than the homeless individuals who agreed to take the survey.

To bolster the randomized sampling procedure, survey workers attempted to reach homeless individuals in a wide range of various geographical locations. Various homeless sub-populations were also targeted, including minority ethnic groups, families,

military veterans, etc. In order to reach the homeless youth, the survey officials trained a team of homeless youth to administer the survey to fellow homeless youth.

In 2013, there was a point-in-time estimate of 7,355 homeless individuals. Using random sampling technique, 860 surveys were administered. When generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated population of homeless individuals in Southern Nevada, this amount represents a confidence interval of $[+/-] 3.1\%$ with a confidence level of 95%.

3.1.2c Survey Administration & Data Collection:

The survey workers made every effort to ensure that each survey respondent felt comfortable as they took the survey. Survey workers encouraged candid responses from the survey respondents, explaining that all responses would remain confidential and anonymous.

The survey workers were trained to remain unbiased throughout the survey, making no assumption and avoiding prompts. They were also instructed to keep all responses confidential. They were instructed to ask all of the questions on the survey, but allow the survey respondents answer only the questions they felt comfortable answering.

3.1.2d Street Homeless:

Homeless interviewers were trained to administer the surveys to the 'street' homeless as they can identify with the conditions and challenges that the street homeless individuals face. These workers also knew the likely locations where the street homeless individuals could be found. This peer-to-peer method was particularly effective at building rapport between the homeless individual and the homeless survey workers, likely encouraging honest responses.

3.1.2e Shelters & Transitional Housing:

17 emergency shelters, 17 transitional housing facilities, and 1 safe haven located in Southern Nevada participated in the survey administration. Program staff conducted these surveys and the same survey was used in both the street and shelter environments. In order to avoid underrepresentation of transitional housing residents, survey workers created survey quotas that targeted individuals and heads of households residing in these programs.

3.1.2f Data Analysis - Elimination of Duplicate Surveys:

A sound strategy was employed to avoid duplicate surveys. Along with documenting the respondents' initials and date of birth, the survey workers also examined gender, ethnicity, and length of homeless in order to identify any duplicate surveys. After evaluation, it was determined that there were zero duplicate surveys, thus leaving 860 valid surveys to be analyzed.

A total of 860 surveys were administered, with a 0.9% refusal rate. There were no duplicate surveys administered. Zero surveys were conducted in Spanish.

3.2 Survey Challenges & Limitations

With a point-in-time estimate of 7,355, 860 valid surveys, and a randomized sample, the surveys represent a confidence interval of $\pm 3.14\%$ with a 95% confidence level; the identified confidences can be applied to the survey findings despite the fact that an equal representation of all homeless experiences is not feasible.

The self-reporting research technique used in this survey effort presents a range of challenges, one of which being misrepresentation. There is no way to confidently conclude that each question was answered with honesty and accuracy. The peer-to-peer technique utilized in this survey effort was particularly effective at reducing the risk of misrepresentation and biases. Respondents were more comfortable offering candid answers to a peer, and were more willing to reveal personal information.

In sum, it is important to note that carefully selected and highly trained interviewers reviewed the responses of these surveys. All surveys were reviewed for quality responses, and any incomplete surveys or falsified responses were eliminated from the final results.

APPENDIX VII: GLOSSARY & DEFINITION OF TERMS

Annual Estimate

An estimated amount of homeless persons in a given CoC over the course of a year. This estimate is calculated in order to compensate for the bias created by the inability to include persons who experience short episodes of homelessness throughout the year, at times other than the PIT count. This reduces the degree of underrepresentation of the true number of homeless persons at any given point in time during the year.

Annual Homeless Assessment Report AHAR

Annual Report responding to a congressional directive that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provide an annual report to Congress on the extent and nature of homelessness. The AHAR provides the results of local counts of people homeless on a single night in January, as well as estimates of the number, characteristics, and service patterns of all people who used residential programs for homeless people. It also provides national estimates on the use of the full continuum of homeless assistance programs—from homelessness prevention to homeless residential services to permanent supportive housing.

Chronic Substance Abuse

This category on the PIT includes persons with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both) that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

Chronically Homeless Individual

An unaccompanied homeless adult individual (persons 18 years or older) with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time. For purposes of the PIT, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT count should not be included in this category.

Chronically Homeless Family

A household with at least one adult member (persons 18 or older) who has a disabling condition and who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time. For purposes of the PIT, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT count should not be included in this subpopulation category; the subpopulation count should include all members of the household, including children.

Continuums of Care (CoC)

A collaborative funding and planning approach that helps communities plan for and provide, as necessary, a full range of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and other service resources to address the various needs of homeless persons. HUD also refers to the group of service providers involved in the decision-making processes as the "Continuum of Care." They are responsible for coordinating the full range of homeless services in a geographic area, which may cover a city, county, metropolitan area, or entire state.

Contributory HMIS Program

A program that contributes Protected Personal Information (PPI) or other client-level data to an HMIS.

Disabling Condition

Any one of (1) a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment which is (a) expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration, (b) substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and (c) of such a nature that such ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; (3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; (4) the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiological agency for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder. For the purposes of this study, disabling condition is further specified as any of the following: physical disability, mental illness, severe depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, trauma, or a developmental disability.

Emergency Shelter

Short-term provision of shelter that can be proffered either through a shelter facility or motel vouchers. This temporary assistance is usually provided for 30 days or less. An example of an emergency shelter is a domestic violence shelter, which offers immediate housing and safety for victims of domestic violence and their families.

Episode of Homelessness (HUD Definition)

A separate, distinct, and sustained stay on the streets and/or in an emergency homeless shelter.

Extrapolation

A technique for estimating the total number of unsheltered persons in your community based on the number of unsheltered persons that you have been able to observe and/or interview from your statistically reliable sample

Family

HUD defined household with at least one adult (18 or older) and one child (under 18).

HMIS

An HMIS is a computerized data collection application designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics and service needs of men, women, and children experiencing

homelessness, while also protecting client confidentiality. It is designed to aggregate client-level data to generate an unduplicated count of clients served within a community's system of homeless services. An HMIS may also cover a statewide or regional area, and include several CoCs. The HMIS can provide data on client characteristics and service utilization. HMIS is an eligible budget activity and also an SHP component that allows applicants to request SHP assistance for dedicated or shared projects.

Homelessness (HUD Definition)

An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; as well an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Individual

Persons in a household without children. They are homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

Homeless Individual

According to the McKinney Act, 42, U.S.C § 11301, et seq. a homeless individual is a person who "lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence; and... has a primary night time residency that is: (A) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations... (B) An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or (C) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Household

Occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

Households With Only Children

HUD defines Households With Only Children as household configurations composed of more than one person under the age of 18. This includes unaccompanied children, adolescent parents, groups composed of adolescent siblings, and any other type of household configuration that is composed of only children.

Only Children

Persons in households composed of only children

Persons in Families

People who are homeless as part of households that have at least one adult and one child.

Persons with HIV/AIDS

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent housing in which supportive services are provided to assist homeless persons with disability to live independently.

PIT

Point-in-Time

Protected Personal Information (PPI)

Information about a client: (1) whose identity is apparent from the information or can reasonably be ascertained from the information; or (2) whose identity can, taking into account any methods reasonably likely to be used, be learned by linking the information with other available information or by otherwise manipulating the information.

Safe Haven

A form of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness and other debilitating behavioral conditions who are on the street and have been unable or unwilling to participate in housing or supportive services.

Severe Depression

Individuals who reported experiencing depression and who reported that their depression prevents them from getting work or housing.

Severely Mentally Ill (SMI)

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons with mental health problems that are expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

Sheltered Homeless Persons

Homeless persons who are living in a emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.

Single Individual or Person

An unaccompanied person of any age not in families.

Transitional Housing

A project that is designed to provide housing and appropriate supportive services to homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months, or a longer period approved by HUD. For purposes of the HOME program, there is no HUD-approved time period for moving to independent living

Unaccompanied Child (under 18)

Minors (under 18) not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, including those living in inadequate housing such as shelters, cars, or on the streets. Also includes those who have been denied housing by their families and school-age unwed mothers who have no housing of their own, and present for services alone.

Unaccompanied Youth

Persons under the age of 25 who presents for services alone and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, including those living in inadequate housing such as shelters, cars, or on the streets. Also includes those who have been denied housing by their families and school-age unwed mothers who have no housing of their own, and present for services alone.

Unsheltered Homeless Persons

An individual or family who "lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence; and has a primary night time residency that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. This includes individuals and families with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground

Unsheltered – Street Homeless Persons

Unsheltered homeless persons who do not reside in shelters, but instead reside in locations such as unoccupied cars, vans, RVs, encampments, and abandoned buildings, or other areas not meant for human habitation.

Unsheltered – Hidden Homeless Persons

The estimated amount of unsheltered homeless persons generated from a general population telephone survey. These persons reside outside of shelters, in places not meant for human habitation that are not visible to enumerators.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Established in 1965, HUD's mission is to increase homeownership, support community development, and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination. To fulfill this mission, HUD will embrace high standards of ethics, management and accountability and forge new partnerships — particularly with faith-based and community organizations — that leverage resources and improve HUD's ability to be effective on the community level.

Veteran

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

Victims of Domestic Violence

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have been victims of domestic violence at any point in the past.

2013 SOUTHERN NEVADA

Homeless Census & Survey



HelpHopeHome
Helping The Homeless in Southern Nevada



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